WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2012

SALEM NEWS

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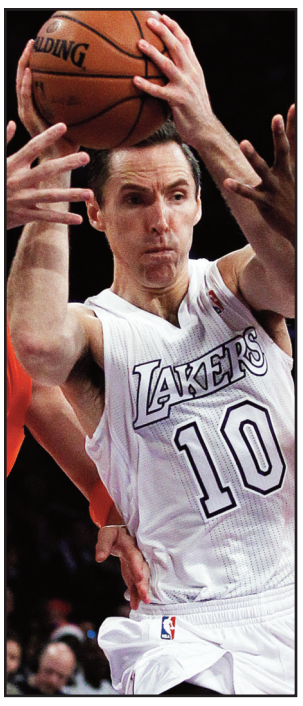
GOOD MORNING!

STORM WARNING!

High 33 / Low 25



▸ Sports

NBA Christmas day action.

See Page 1B

CU

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ON THE...

Calendar

THIS WEEK..

See Page 7A

DEATHS

Mary Eva (Guindon) Stanley
Scott A. Meiring
Walter J. 'Toby' Blythe

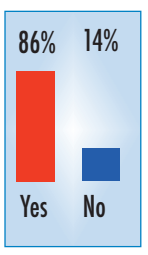
LOTTERY

Rolling 5	10-13-17-20-38
Night Ohio Pick 3	0-5-9
Night Ohio Pick 4	3-1-0-1
Night Ohio Pick 5	6-6-8-8-0
Day Ohio Pick 3	3-8-4
Day Ohio Pick 4	5-5-3-5
Day Ohio Pick 5	7-4-8-3-3
Mega Millions	2-3-18-34-48
Mega Ball	36
Megaplier	4

E-POLL

Tuesday's Question

So, did you get what you wanted for Christmas?



Today's question

Will our area's road crews be up to the task of a major storm today?

Vote online at: www.salemnews.net

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SALEM

Employee disputes SCH's mask policy

By MARY ANN GREIER
Staff Writer

A Salem Community Hospital employee said she doesn't think a new policy forcing her to wear a mask is fair, but hospital officials said that's the requirement for employees who decline to be vaccinated against the flu for health or other reasons.

"For the first time, Salem Community Hospital is requiring all of its employees to be vaccinated, and this vaccine requirement is supported by the SCH medical staff. Those who decline to be vaccinated for health or other reasons will have to wear a mask throughout the flu season.

"Those who decline to be vaccinated for health or other reasons will have to wear a mask throughout the flu season. This is another sign of the importance that health care providers place on flu shots."
— Salem Community Hospital Director of Public Releations Michele Hoffmeister

This is another sign of the importance that health care providers place on flu shots," SCH Director of Public Releations Michele Hoffmeister said in a written statement.

Marie Fortney, a Salem resident who works in the hospital cafeteria, called the Salem News regarding the new requirement and said "we aren't even sick the bunch of us who have

See SCH, 2A

A somber Christmas

Portraits of slain students and teachers hang from a tree at a memorial in Newtown, Conn. on Christmas. People continue to visit memorials in the wake of the shootings after gunman Adam Lanza walked into Sandy Hook Elementary School on Dec. 14, and opened fire, killing 26, including 20 children, before killing himself. (AP Photo)

Volunteers manned a 24-hour candlelight vigil in memory of the 20 children, six educators gunned down

NEWTOWN, Conn. (AP) — Newtown celebrated Christmas amid piles of snow-covered teddy bears, long lines of stockings and heaps of flowers as volunteers manned a 24-hour candlelight vigil in memory of the 20 children and six educators gunned down at an elementary school just 11 days before the holiday.

Well-wishers from around the country showed up Christmas morning to hang ornaments on a series of memorial Christmas trees while police officers from around the state took extra shifts to direct traffic, patrol the town and give police here a break.

"It's a nice thing that they can use us this way," Ted Latiak, a police detective from Greenwich, Conn., said Christmas morning, as he and a fellow detective, each working a half-day shift, came out of a store with bagels and coffee for other officers.

The expansive memorials throughout town have become a gathering point for town residents and visitors alike. A steady

See NEWTOWN, 2A

CTC undertaking renovation projects in 2013

By TOM GIAMBRONI
Staff Writer

▸ COLUMBIANA COUNTY

LISBON —The Columbiana County Career and Technical Center is setting aside a bit more money in its capital improvement in anticipation of undertaking some additional renovation projects in 2013.

The CTC board voted last week to transfer $1 million from the general fund to the capital improvement fund to further improvements at the restaurant, install additional energy efficient lighting and convert a storage garage into two additional science labs.

The CTC has no capital improvement levy, which is why it transfers money into the account. Superintendent Chuck Adkins said the board usually transfers $500,000 per year, but the amount was upped this year because of the science lab project.

He said they need some larger modern labs to serve students enrolled in their various health care programs, and they hope to accomplish that with conversion of the storage garage where tractors and other equipment are currently kept.

The CTC has applied to the state to determine if any of the projects would qualify for state funding and learn how much is available, but Adkins said they are prepared to proceed with the projects, regardless.

In other action at the meeting, the board hired Kerry Beeson as an auto

See CTC, 2A

Green Township residents can recycle Christmas trees beginning today

By LARRY SHIELDS
Staff writer

GREENFORD — Green Township residents can recycle cut Christmas trees in the cemetery at the intersection of state Route 165 and Beaver Creek Road beginning today, according to recycling coordinator Janet Schaefer.

The program runs from Dec. 26 through Jan. 31, Schaefer told township trustees last week.

Residents can drop their trees off from 9 am. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Trees for residents from other townships can be recycled at the Canfield Township fire station at 5007 Messerly Road; at the Goshen Township maintenance garage at 12649 Seacrist Road; at the Berlin Township building on U.S. Route 224 in Berlin Center; at the Ellsworth Township fire station on state Route 45; and at the Smith Township building on North Johnson road in Sebring.

All decorations must be removed from the trees.

Green Township residents can also recycle wrapping paper and greeting cards.

That recycling program began on Dec. 1 and will run through Dec. 31. Residents are asked to collect the materials in brown paper bags, removed ribbons and foil wrap and deliver them to the recycling site at 12184 Lisbon-Canfield Road.

Residents of Green Township can also recycle auto batteries, plastic six-pack rings and motor oil at the

See GREEN, 2A

Pope delivers Christmas message

Pope Benedict XVI delivers his "Urbi et Orbi" (to the City and to the World) speech from the central loggia of St. Peter's Basilica, at the Vatican on Tuesday. Pope Benedict XVI wished Christmas peace to the world. (AP Photo)

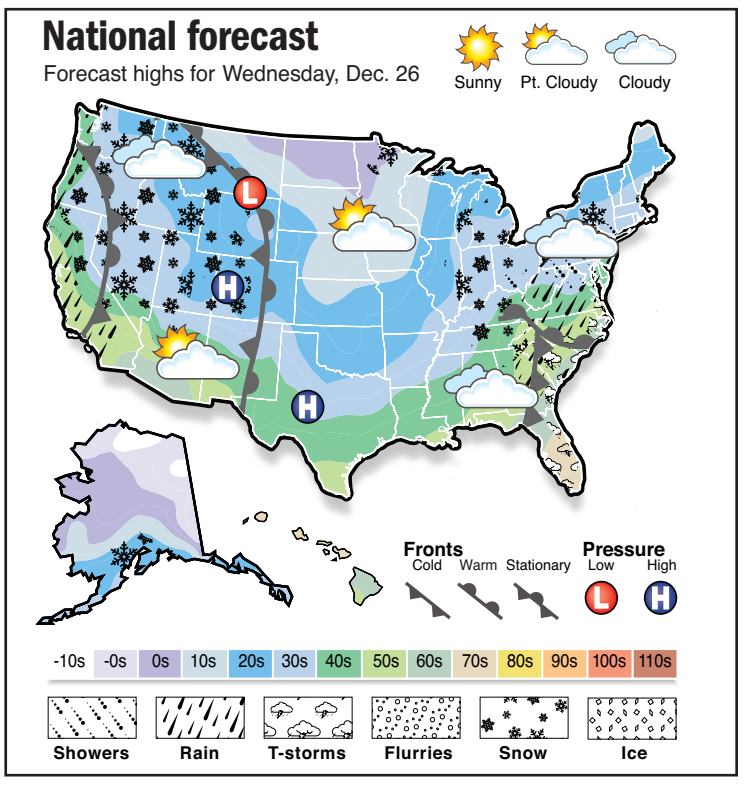
Good morning Richard Zepernick. Thank you for subscribing to the Salem News.

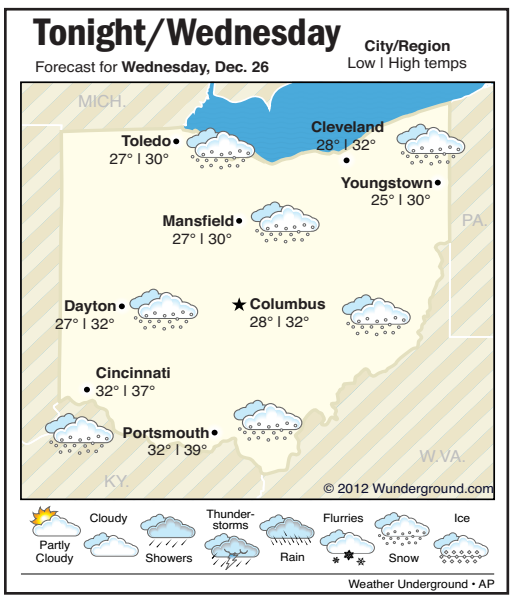
WEATHER

THE FORECAST

AREA: Today.. Snow. Areas of blowing snow in the afternoon. Snow accumulation of 4 to 8 inches. Brisk with highs in the lower 30s. Northeast winds 15 to 20 mph. Chance of snow near 100 percent. Wednesday night...Snow. Areas of blowing snow. Brisk. Near steady temperature in the mid 20s. Northeast winds 15 to 20 mph. Chance of snow near 100 percent. Thursday...Cloudy. Snow showers likely...Mainly in the morning. Highs in the lower 30s. Northwest winds around 15 mph. Chance of snow 70 percent. Thursday night...Mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of snow showers. Lows in the lower 20s. Friday...Partly sunny. Highs around 30. Friday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows around 20. Saturday...Snow likely. Highs in the lower 30s. Chance of snow 60 percent. Saturday night...Snow likely. Lows around 20. Chance of snow 60 percent. Sunday...Cloudy with a 40 percent chance of snow showers. Highs around 30. Sunday night...Mostly cloudy. Lows around 20. Monday...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 20s.

CLEVELAND: Today... Snow. Areas of blowing snow in the afternoon. Snow accumulation of 6 to 10 inches. Brisk with highs in the mid 30s. Northeast winds 15 to 25 mph with gusts up to 35 mph. Chance of snow near 100 percent. Wednesday night...Snow. Areas of blowing snow. Brisk. Near steady temperature in the upper 20s. Northeast winds 15 to 25 mph with gusts up to 35 mph. Chance of snow near 100 percent. Thursday...Cloudy. Snow showers likely...Mainly in the morning. Brisk with highs in the lower 30s. North winds 15 to 20 mph. Chance of snow 70 percent. Thursday night...Mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of snow showers. Lows in the lower 20s.





Extended Forecast

Today	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
33/25	32/22	30/20	33/20

ALMANAC

On Dec. 26, 1972, the 33rd president of the United States, Harry S. Truman, died in Kansas City, Mo., at age 88. In 1799, former President George Washington was eulogized by Col. Henry Lee as "first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen." In 1862, 38 Santee Sioux Indians were hanged in Mankato, Minn., for their roles in an uprising that had claimed the lives of hundreds of white settlers. In 1908, Jack Johnson became the first African-American boxer to win the world heavyweight championship as he defeated Canadian Tommy Burns in Sydney, Australia. In 1941, during World War II, Winston Churchill became the first British prime minister to address a joint meeting of the U.S. Congress. In 1944, during the World War II Battle of the Bulge, the embattled U.S. 101st Airborne Division in Bastogne, Belgium, was relieved by units of the 4th Armored Division.

SCH

FROM 1A

to wear a mask... I don't know what the mask is going to prevent here. I see no reason for it...We're not sick, so how are we going to spread germs?" Fortney has worked there for five years and said it's never been an issue before.

According to Hoffmeister, federal health officials began a "universal recommendation" for flu shots last year.

"According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), everyone older than six months should be vaccinated, with rare exceptions. This is especially important for people who are at risk for serious health complications, including infants, the elderly, pregnant women and those with chronic health issues such as asthma, diabetes or lung disease – the kind of people most likely to be found in hospitals, nursing homes and clinics," she wrote.

"That's why the CDC stresses the importance of flu shots for another group: people who live with or care for these at-risk groups, including health care workers. Vaccinations have been recommended for all health care providers by the CDC, the American Hospital Association, and The Joint Commission, which monitors the quality and safety of care provided at participating hospitals. Currently, more than half of the hospitals nationwide are requiring their workers to get flu shots," she said.

SCH launched a staff education program in early October "to explain the importance of influenza vaccinations for health care workers. The program included written information and phone numbers to call for answers to specific questions. In addition, hospital employees were invited to attend panel discussions hosted by SCH physicians to learn more about influenza and how to prevent it," she explained.

According to Lyn Pethtel, Director of Quality Improvement and Infection Control at SCH, "The virus that causes the flu is spread from person to person by droplets that are coughed or sneezed into the air, or by handling items contaminated by an infected person. People can spread the flu for one to two days before they begin to feel sick. This is why health care workers, who care for people at high risk for flu complications, must take every precaution."

In addition to the staff precautions, members of the community are asked to refrain from visiting hospitalized patients, if they are not feeling well, Hoffmeister said.

Masks are available at the hospital's entrances for individuals who feel they must visit.

Green

FROM 1A

oil and battery collection point. Routine recycling is available for aluminum and steel cans, catalogs, cardboard, foam peanuts, glass bottles, household batteries, magazines, motor oil, newspapers, office paper, plastics #1 through #7, plastic grocery bags – empty, and telephone books. Cans, glass and plastic should be rinsed thoroughly. The newspapers are used for animal bedding and Stephanie Coleman, the retiring recycling coordinator, said the Christmas trees are taken to a local lake where they placed under water to enhance the fish habitat.

The 24/7 recycling center said if anyone needs something for a special project, it can set it aside or try to find it. The center cannot take cooking glass, water glasses, window glass, hard-bound books, frozen food boxes, window panes, plastic or metal hangers, photographs or Styrofoam.

NEWTOWN

FROM 1A

stream of residents, some in pajamas, relit candles that had been extinguished in an overnight snow storm. Others took pictures, dropped off toys and fought back tears at a huge sidewalk memorial in the center of Newtown's Sandy Hook section that is filled with stuffed animals, poems, flowers, posters and cards. In the morning, Newtown resident Joanne Brunetti watched over 26 candles that had been lit at midnight in honor of those slain at Sandy Hook Elementary School. She and her husband, Bill, signed up for a three-hour shift and erected a tent to ensure that the candle flames never went out throughout the day. "You have to do something and you don't know what to do, you know? You really feel very helpless in this situation," she said. "People have been wonderful to everybody in Newtown whether you were part of what happened or not. My thought is if we were all this nice to each other all the time maybe things like this wouldn't happen."

At a town hall memorial, Faith Leonard waved to people driving by and handed out Christmas cookies, children's gifts and hugs to anyone who needed it. "I guess my thought was if I could be here helping out maybe one person would be able to spend more time with their family or grieve in the way they needed to," said Leonard, who drove to Newtown from Gilbert, Ariz., to volunteer on Christmas morning alone. "I know they've been inundated with support and that's great, but it's always nice to have a present to open on Christmas day." Julian Revie played "Silent Night" on a piano on the sidewalk at the downtown memorial. Revie, from Ottawa, Canada, was in the area visiting at the time of the shootings. He cancelled his plans to go to Australia, found a piano online and chose to spend Christmas Eve and Christmas Day playing for the people of Newtown.

"It was such a mood of respectful silence," said Revie, who planned to leave the piano behind. "But yesterday being Christmas Eve and today being Christmas Day, I thought now it's time for some Christmas carols for the children."

Many town residents attended Christmas Eve services Monday evening and spent the morning at home with their families. Others attended church services in search of a new beginning.

CTC

FROM 1A

collision repair instructor replacing Kevin Barnett, who resigned from the position after a short time on the job. Beeson, who was transportation director for the United Local school district, will be paid $53,000.

Angela Datillio, director of the Adult Basic and Literacy Education program, gave a brief update on the program. In addition to classes at the school, adults wishing to improve their reading, math and other education skills can attend classes at sites in Salem, Columbiana and East Liverpool.

Many adults use these classes to prepare for the GED exams, and Datillio reported 52 did just that in 2012, with 48 passing. Another 11 were able to use the classes to obtain a job, 12 used the classes to keep their job, and 45 students went on to college or advance vocational training.

The CTC board's next meeting is 7 p.m. Jan. 15.

tgiambroni@mojonews.com

COLUMBIANA COUNTY

BDD receives some wonderful Christmas news from engineer

By TOM GIAMBRONI
Staff Writer

LISBON — The county agency that serves the mentally handicapped received a Christmas present of sorts from the Columbiana County Engineer's Office.

County Board of Developmental Disabilities Director William Devon II reported that county Engineer Bert Dawson's office has offered to hook the BDD's Robert Bycroft School and nearby workshop into a new waterline being run to the area.

The school is located on state Route 172 and the workshop about a quarter mile away on County Home Road. County commissioners are in the process of extending municipal water service to the area, and also benefiting from the waterline are the county jail, county dog pound and county juvenile detention center, known as the Tobin Center, all of which are located on County Home Road.

Devon said they were prepared to hire JP Plumbing of Lisbon for $5,400 and Paul Mitchell Excavating for $15,630 to install a line connecting the school and workshop to the new waterline, but the engineer's office staff will instead do the work at no cost to the BDD.

He said they were obviously grateful for the gesture and pleased to be able to replace their well system with a reliable source of municipal water, which will be coming from the city of Salem's system.

"This is a great thing for us because we're going to have water for all the buildings even if the power goes out," Devon said.

The BDD and the other county buildings will also benefit from a mini-sewage treatment plant being built in the area by commissioners to specifically serve the agencies by replacing individual mini-treatment plants.

In business at its recent meeting, the BDD approved a settlement agreement with Cecelia Rose, a workshop employee. Rose's employment had been terminated and she filed a grievance, but the settlement agreement resolves the dispute, with the end result being she will no longer work for the BDD. Devon said his attorney advised him against disclosing any further details of the agreement.

Getting Crafty class is Jan. 14 at Salem Library

SALEM — "Clean Out the Craft Cupboard" is the theme for the Getting Crafty class to be held at 6:30 p.m. Jan. 14 in the Salem Public Library's Quaker Room.

Attendees will have the opportunity to pick one project to complete from some of the craft projects of 2012.

All materials will be provided to adults, free of cost. Registration is required by stopping at the adult circulation desk or by calling 330-332-0042.

DEATHS

Walter J. "Toby" Blythe

SALEM — Walter J. "Toby" Blythe, 88, of Coral Springs, Florida died at 3:25 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 23, 2012 at his home.

He was born April 25, 1924 in Newgarden, Ohio, a son of the late Thurman Oliver and Margaret (Little) Blythe.

Toby worked for Inverrary Country Club in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida as supervisor of maintenance. Prior to moving to Florida, he had worked at Loudon Ford, where he sold and worked on tractors for many years. He served in the U.S. Army during WWII.

He was a member of the F&AM Hanoverton Lodge, member of the United Local School Board for nine years, former member and deacon of the Hanoverton Presbyterian Church and a member of the Presbyterian Church in Coral Springs, Florida.

His wife of 64 years, Kathryn Ann Loudon Blythe, preceded him in death Sept. 13, 2005. He was also preceded by two sisters, Maxine Blythe McKarns and Hazel Blythe.

Survivors include a son, Gary Blythe of Hanoverton; a daughter, Bonnie (Mitchell) Brenner of Weston, Florida; two granddaughters, Julie (Scott) Fanelli and Stacey (John) Hett; and three great-grandchildren, Madeline, Andrew and Norah.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 29, 2012 at the Stark Memorial Funeral Home with Pastor Tom Allmon officiating. Calling hours will be held one hour prior to the services on Saturday. The Lisbon Masonic Lodge will hold a service at 12:30 p.m. Saturday at the funeral home.

Burial will be at Grove Hill Cemetery in Hanoverton with full military honors provided by the Salem Honor Guard.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Hanoverton Presbyterian Church, PO Box 127, Hanoverton, OH 44423.

This obituary may be viewed and condolences sent to the family at www.starkmemorial.com.

12/26/12
(Paid obituary)

Mary Eva (Guindon) Stanley

COLUMBIANA — Mary Eva (Guindon) Stanley passed away Wednesday, Dec. 19, 2012 after a long illness.

A birthright member of the Religious Society of Friends, Quakers; Mary Eva was a member of Middleton Friends Meeting. Mary Eva was born in 1926 in Wheeling, WV and grew up in Tacoma near Barnesville, Ohio. She was the eldest daughter of the late Albert and Bertha (Hall) Guindon.

Mary Eva was married 57 years to the late Wilmer "Starch" Stanley of Columbiana. Following graduation in 1944 from Olney Friends School, Mary Eva moved to Columbus, Ohio where she attended and graduated from Bliss College. Her work life included employment with Deming Pump Co., Eveready Gas Company and as child care provider. Mary Eva is remembered for her desire to live a conscientious Christian life, her love of family, children and the connections to her brothers and sister, nieces and nephews and grandchildren. Mary Eva's vocation in life was to be of service to others.

She is survived by her three daughters, Christine (Randy) Gerber, of Pawleys Island, SC; Karen (Bill) Campf of Washingtonville; and, Darlene Stanley of Greensboro, NC; five grandchildren, W. Jeremy (Ericka) Campf, Christy Campf, Megan Stanley, Jesse Garvin and Christopher Gerber; two great-grandchildren; a brother, Wilford Guindon of Costa Rica; and a sister, Sara (Guindon) Kirk of Adena, OH.

Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 29, 2012 at the Warrick-Kummer-Rettig Funeral Home, Columbiana. Private family interment will be in the Middleton Friends Cemetery. Friends may call at the funeral home one hour prior to the services.

The family would like to recognize St. Mary's Alzheimer's Center, for its loving care of Mary Eva since 2003. In lieu of flowers, a donation may be given in her name to the St. Mary's Alzheimer's Center or Hospice of the Valley.

Sign the register and send condolences at www.familycare-services.com.

12/26/12
(Paid obituary)

Scott A. Meiring

ALLIANCE — Scott A. Meiring, 42, of Lisbon, passed away on Monday, Dec. 17, 2012, at 8:11 p.m. at Aultman Hospital in Canton with his beloved family at his side.

Born on April 28, 1970 in Alliance, he lived in Alliance most of his life, living in Lisbon for the last 10 years.

He received his education at Alliance High School and was employed at the family business.

In his past-time, he enjoyed drag racing at Quaker City Drag strip, working on his 1970 Nova, spending time with his family, especially his two grandchildren, Kassidy and Trenton, and his dog, Rusty. He was very proud of his vegetable gardens.

Survivors include his mother, Victoria and John Stewart of Salem; three daughters, Chelsea Meiring and her companion, Lee, of Leetonia, Kristina Reitz of Alliance and Jessica Rettinger of Deltona, FL; a son, Zachary Kenst of Salem; a sister, Linda (Caleb) Fike of Wellsville; his fiancé, Annette Reitz of Lisbon; four grandchildren, Kassidy Reitz, Trenton Townes, both of Leetonia, Nathaniel Rettinger and Leighlynn Rettinger of Deltona FL; a nephew, Matthew Harper of Wellsville; two nieces, Cayla Fike of Wellsville and Nicole Harper of Leetonia; paternal grandmother, Gloria Oaks of Woodbridge, VA; an uncle, Jeff Meiring of Alliance; an aunt, Melanie (Mark) Mangus of Damascus; a host of cousins; and his beloved dog, Rusty.

Preceding him in death was his father, Alan W. Meiring; paternal grandparents, Nick and Charlotte Popovich; Peter and Ruth Ann Meiring; and his favorite aunt, Betty (Donald Shakey) Tarolli.

His memorial service will be held at St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery Chapel on Friday, December 28, 2012, at 10 a.m. with Rev. Fr. Matthew M. Mankowski officiating. Interment will follow.

Memorial contributions may be made to the funeral home to help defray funeral expenses.

Arrangements are by the Sharer-Stirling-Skivolocke Funeral Home, 1000 S. Union Avenue, Alliance, Ohio 44601. This obituary may be viewed and condolences may be sent to the family online at www.sharerfuneralhome.com.

12/26/12
(Paid obituary)

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

—Casey Reynolds, West Lincoln Way, Lisbon, reported Tuesday she and her then-boyfriend had an argument about him cheating on her and he told her to get out of his vehicle.

She did and began walking, but he came back, grabbed her by the hair and dragged her back into the vehicle. She later found scrapes on her back. Reynolds refused to file charges.

— A caller reported Tuesday morning a person lying by the side of Depot Road, and deputies responded to find Deborah L. Ramsey, 50, address not listed, lying in the ditch and a pickup truck owned by William Syx parked alongside her.

Witnesses reported seeing Ramsey jump from the truck as it was coming to a stop, and Syx told deputies she jumped out for no reason. Deputies reported Ramsey was intoxicated and couldn't stand on her own, and she was transported to Salem Community Hospital by KLG ambulance. Syx was not impaired and was permitted to leave.

— A Buck Road, Alliance caller reported the neighbors yelling Monday morning. Deputies spoke with Cindy Masters, who said she and her 14-year-old son had been arguing and he went outside and began throwing things, hitting their trailer. The boy told deputies he does that to avoid conflict when he's angry. There were no threats made, according to reports.

— Rick Feezle of Rollerena Auto Sales, state Route 14, East Palestine, reported Monday a 1997 Ford Supercab truck with a snowplow and ladder rack was taken, having been driven through a fence. The truck had been locked with the key in the office.

— While in the process of moving, John Bailey, state Route 172, Minerva found items scattered everywhere in his apartment and numerous items missing, including a Wii game system, jewelry, pipe cutter and wrenches, welder, a car stereo, camera, camcorder and medication.

—David Perkins, state Route 7, Columbiana, reported his mother met a man via the Internet and allowed him to move in soon afterward. Perkins, who has power of attorney over his mother, has since found numerous documents changed into the man's name and missing funds.

— Jennifer Boyer, Negley, reported a horse got loose and injured itself while running on the railroad tracks. She and others were able to remove the horse from the tracks.

— Heidi Scott, Miller Road, Leetonia, reported having a problem with her neighbor, who came to the barn and told Scott's family members they were trespassing. She has also found a metal fence post in her lawn and believes the neighbor did it. Scott asked for extra checks of the area.

POLICE

SALEM REPORTS

— A Columbia Street mother reported Tuesday her daughter had marks on her arms when she arrived home from a visitation with her father. The girl told police her father fell on it but would not elaborate, according to reports. She also had a laceration she reported was from being bitten by her brother while at her father's home. A report was sent to Children Services.

— Edward Barnes, West 12th Street, reportedly backed his vehicle into a parked vehicle owned by Patricia Wilde, South Lincoln, Tuesday.

—Officers responded Monday night to a call at the Southeast Boulevard home of Michael McFadden and his live-in girlfriend Amanda M. Swartz, finding the couple and her ex-boyfriend John Castelucci in an argument out in front of the residence. McFadden said Castelucci was calling and threatening him and was waiting when Swartz arrived home. Castelucci told officers he came to confront McFadden who had threatened him on the phone in the presence of Castelucci's child. Castelucci was told by officers to stay off the property or risk being arrested.

— A vehicle slid into a yard on North Union Avenue Christmas morning, leaving damage and running over a speed limit sign.

— A resident of East Fifth Street, reported Tuesday his vehicle entered and a chef's knife set stolen.

— Officers checked a parking lot on South Broadway for a report of drug paraphernalia, but none was found.

— Daniel O. Brooks, Lisbon Street, Hanoverton, reported he and his stepbrother went to Walmart and went their separate ways to shop. He had the store page his stepbrother multiple times, to no avail. He was advised the steps to take to report a missing adult.

— Called to East State Street for a possible intoxicated person Monday, officers found a woman who had just fallen asleep in her vehicle.

COLUMBIANA REPORTS

— A man reported at 9:31 p.m. Saturday loud music was coming from the apartment over Kevin's Clipper Cuts on South Main Street. Police told Rick Adkins to turn the music down.

— Ryan E. Sevenich, 22, Columbiana, was eastbound on Salem Street at 11:55 p.m. Saturday and failed to yield while attempting to turn left onto Main Street and hit a westbound vehicle driven by James Scragg, Washingtonville. Sevenich was arrested and cited for OVI, failure to yield and right of way turning left.

– Someone reported at 12:15 p.m. Sunday a Canada goose was in the parking lot L&E Rentals and appeared to have a broken wing. Police looked for the goose but did not find it.

— Joshua Cooper, Pegram, Tenn., was stationary at the state Route 46 and state Route 14 intersection at 7 p.m. Sunday and Daniel Felt, Lisbon, failed to maintain the assured clear distance head and rear-ended Cooper's vehicle. No citations were issued.

LISBON REPORTS

— A pickup truck driven by Ronald D. Tice, Clarks Mill Road, Hammondsville, reportedly backed into a car owned by Rocky Heddleston, Fairfield School Road, Leetonia, while Heddleston was pumping gas at the Circle K. Tice told officers he did not believe he struck Heddleston's 2012 Lexus because his bumper is too high, however, the officer found marks on both vehicle he felt were consistent with what her passengers said occurred.

— A clerk at the BP station reported a suspicious person Monday, saying a car pulled up to the pumps and the driver sat there for about 30 minutes, never pumping gasoline. The vehicle left just prior to officers' arrival and couldn't be found in the area.

— An Apple Grove woman asked for a welfare check on her mother, who had left the house and was walking down Saltwell Road. Officers spoke to both women and found they were OK and said they walked back to the house.

HIGHWAY PATROL

— James R. Coffman, 25, West Main Street, Leetonia, was cited Saturday for failure to control after his westbound vehicle swerved to miss a vehicle that stopped in front of him. His vehicle went off the road, striking a ditch and coming to rest in a yard.

— While southbound on state Route 11 Saturday, Michelle L. Galeoti, 25, Jefferson Avenue, Newell, W.Va., lost control of her vehicle, which went off the right side, striking a guardrail. She was cited for failure to control.

— Cited for failure to control Saturday morning was Cheryl L. Holtom, 58, Bacon Avenue, East Palestine, who reportedly lost control of her eastbound vehicle on state Route 46. The vehicle struck a mailbox, culvert, utility pole and tree.

— Keith W. Robson, 22, Nellabrook Avenue NE, Alliance, reported a vehicle went left of center on Mahoning Avenue in Knox Township Friday, striking the side of his truck with its mirror. The other driver fled the scene.

— Seanna D. Ammon, 29, Steubenville Pike, Lisbon, was cited Saturday with failure to control after she reportedly drove off the right side of Steubenville Pike, striking a tree.

— Emily S. Noel, 18, state Route 14, East Palestine, was southbound on state Route 165 in Unity Township at 9:43 p.m. Thursday and hit a deer.

New Year's Eve Salem needs volunteers

SALEM — The ninth annual New Year's Eve Salem, the family oriented, alcohol-free celebration of the arts needs your help now.

Volunteers are the backbone of this community-wide New Year's Eve event. New Year's Eve Salem will take place in six different community buildings beginning at 4:30 p.m. Dec. 31.

The volunteer's tasks are easy. They simply watch the entrance of each of the entertainment venues, offer to sell admission tickets to people who still need them, give mardis gras "celebration beads" to every ticket holder coming in to the building and answer general questions.

The children's venue at the Memorial Building will open before the other music venues so the younger children can enjoy their special venue with children's magic, music and ventriloquists.

They will also have a special balloon drop to bring in the new year at 8 p.m. The Salem Historical Society's venue will also open earlier at 4:30 p.m. New year's Eve venue volunteers are "paid." If the volunteer works two or more hours, they will receive a New Year's Eve Salem admission ticket good at all entertainment venues.

Individuals of all ages, couples or families are encouraged to volunteer. A brief volunteer orientation will be held prior to New Year's Eve Salem to go over assignments and answer any questions the volunteers may have.

This year's orientation will be held Dec. 30 at the Salem Area Chamber of Commerce meeting room. (use the entrance off the alley beside the chamber).

To volunteer call David Schwartz at 330-337-6829, leave a message, containing your name, phone number and number of people volunteering for the evening.

You will be contacted about the orientation and a New Year's Eve Salem volunteer will return your call.

— Submitted material

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-OWNER-
332-5139

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Stark Memorial
Calling Hours:
Wednesday 6:30 to 8 p.m.
Stark Memorial

HROVATIC, ALEX (19)
Services: 11 a.m. Friday
Stark Memorial
Calling Hours: Thursday 4 to 7 p.m.
Stark Memorial

DINSIO, WILLIAM D. Sr. (85)
Services: Friday 2 p.m.
Stark Memorial
Calling Hours: Thursday 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m.
Stark Memorial

WHIPKEY, MARIAN (94)
Memorial Services: Friday 11 a.m.
Emmanuel Lutheran Church
No Calling Hours

LAW, RAY C. III (64)
Services: Saturday 11 a.m.
Stark Memorial
Calling Hours: Friday 6 to 8 p.m.
Stark Memorial

KRYK, HELEN M. (87)
Graveside Services: Saturday 11 a.m.
Grandview Cemetery
No Calling Hours

BLYTHE, WALTER J. "TOBY" (88)
Services: Saturday 2 p.m.
Stark Memorial
Calling Hours: Saturday 1 to 2 p.m.
Stark Memorial
Lisbon Masonic Lodge Service, Saturday 12:30 p.m. at the funeral home.

NICOTERA, YOLANDA J. (83)
Arrangements pending

MOTTO, MARYELLEN (65)
Per her request no services to be held

HELEN CARMELLO (96)
Arrangements pending

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SUSIE (MARY SUSAN HOZDIK) CHARLTON 63
Celebration of Life Service
1 p.m. Saturday
Greenford Christian Church
Visitation 5-8 p.m. Friday
Arbaugh-Pearce-Greenisen & Sons
Saturday 12 to 1 p.m. at church

MATTHEW AARON TODD 37
Services 1 p.m. Friday
Visitation 5-8 p.m. Thursday
12 to 1 p.m. Friday
Arbaugh-Pearce-Greenisen & Sons

CORRECTIONS

— Greg Logan was misidentified as Greg Moore in a highway patrol report in Monday's edition. Logan wrecked his truck at the intersection of state Route 164 and Crestview Road at 1:45 a.m. Saturday.

— An incorrect date was provided by the Salem Hunting Club for its concealed carry class on Jan. 13. For more information or to sign-up call 330-332-9847.

Got news?
330-332-4601; salem-news@salemnews.net

Beaver Local BOE will meet Dec. 27

LISBON — Beaver Local Board of Education plans to meet in special session at 5:15 p.m. Dec. 27 in room two at the high school.

The service agreement with the Columbiana County Educational Service Center for the 2013-14 fiscal year will be terminated.

Blood drive scheduled Jan. 4 in Negley

NEGLEY — An American Red Cross blood drive is slated from 1 to 6 p.m. Jan. 4, in conjunction with an open house, at the Negley Masonic Lodge, 50873 Richardson Ave.

Refreshments will be available in addition to bean soup. To schedule an appointment go to redcrossblood.org or call 800-RED CROSS (800-733-2767).

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USPS#01-3665-0
Beth Volosin, Publisher

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Periodicals postage paid at Salem, OH and additional entry office.

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OPINION

4A

Wednesday, December 26, 2012 Vol. 123, No. 361

The Salem News

161 N. Lincoln Ave., Salem, Ohio 44460
The Salem News (established Jan. 1, 1889)
is published daily.
Beth Volosin, Publisher/Advertising Director
John Dennis Creer, Managing Editor

OUR SIDE

Don't fall prey to holiday depression

The holidays are supposed to bring happiness and joy, but for some it also brings stress and depression. Yesterday was joyous for oh so many people. But some it was a downright downer, perhaps even the most depressing day of an entire year.

There are many in the area who are already stressed about unemployment and the uncertainty of the economy. Household budgets are tight, and children expected gifts Christmas morning. There will be family and friends visiting, parties to attend, cleaning, after-Christmas shopping/returns and baking. All of which can lead to more stress and trigger depression. Right up through the New Year's Day.

The hustle and bustle of the holidays can put a damper on this time of the year but mental health professionals have tips to keep stress and depression to a minimum.

The holidays can be a sad time if you have lost a loved one during the past year. Professionals agree it is OK to take time to grieve, have a good cry and feel sad. Don't feel pressure to be happy, it will only make you feel worse.

If you feel lonely, seek out events in your community. Attend a performance of a church choir or other social activities. Being surrounded by others can help you feel better.

Friends and family need to recognize those who are going through tough times and try to offer emotional support. Talk can be the best medicine for those who are feeling down.

There is an expectation that the holidays need to be perfect or just like ones they have been accustomed to over the years. Times change, but that doesn't mean you have to forget the good times and customs of years gone by. Pick and choose what traditions fit your life.

Also, remember what makes you sad at this time and avoid those triggers.

Family differences can bring on stress at the holidays. Try to set aside differences during the holidays. Continuing a fight at the holidays can make coping with stress and depression even harder, and also can spoil the holidays for others.

Staying physically healthy during the holidays also can be a challenge. Stress can lead to illness. Taking a walk or getting on the treadmill can go a long way to alleviating stress, and make sure you get enough sleep.

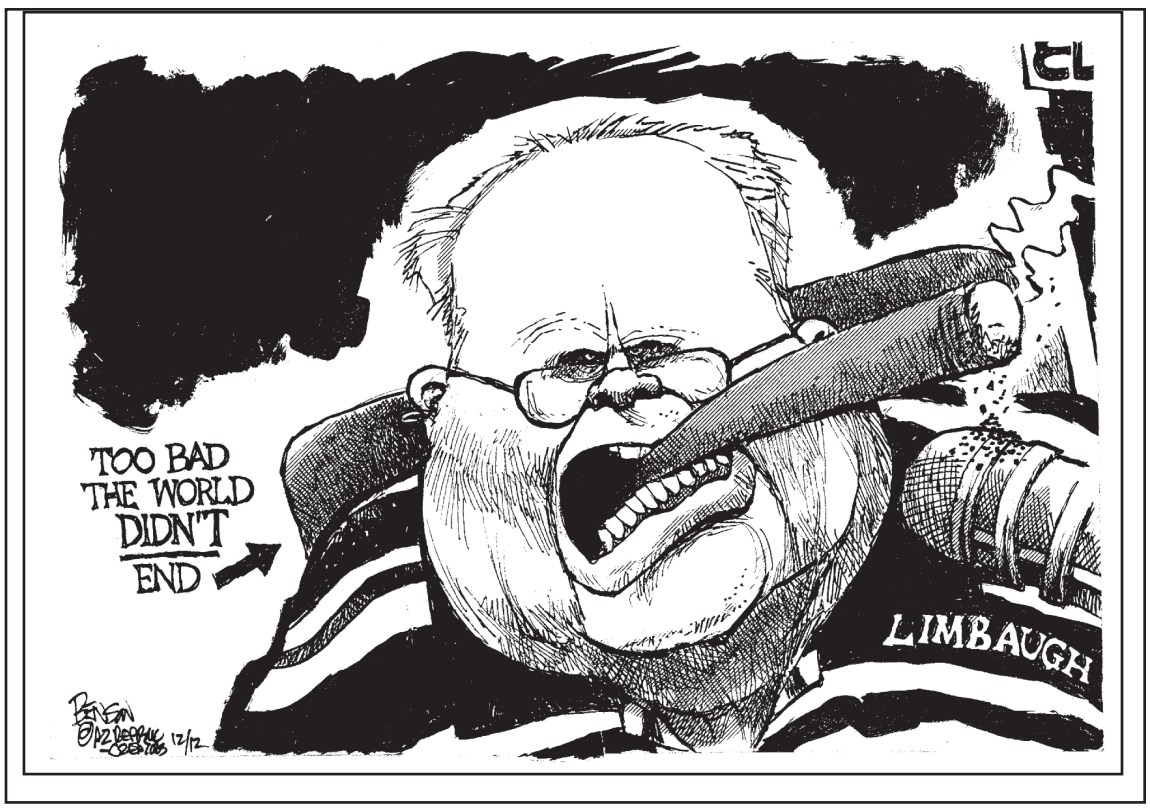
Take time for yourself. That small break is a great way to refresh yourself both physically and mentally.

Even following all the suggestions of mental health professionals may not be enough. Realize it may be time to ask for professional help.

Try to stay positive this holiday season, and don't let stress take away the holiday spirit. If you are depressed, you made it through Christmas Day. Now move forward.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor should be as brief as possible and address one topic. The editor retains the right to refuse any letter for print. The editor retains the right to edit any letters for libelous or inaccurate statements. Anonymous letters and submissions will not be published. A phone number must be included for confirmation. Phone numbers are not published. Submissions should be clearly addressed as a letter to the editor and can be sent to: J.D.Creer, Editor, Salem News, P.O. Box 268, Salem, OH 44460. Emails to: jdcreer@salemnews.net or to: salemnews@salemnews.net. Also visit our Virtual Newsroom via salemnews.net.



Very special education

MARK SHIELDS

Anne Marie Murphy was 52 years old, the mother of Kelly, Colleen, Paige and Thomas, as well as the wife of Mike. Her 86-year-old mother, Alice McGowan, herself, the mother of seven, said straightforwardly: "She was a very good daughter, a good mother, a good wife."

But the reason we know her is because Annie, as she was called, was the special-education teacher in Sandy Hook Elementary School who was killed in the Slaughter of the Innocents on Dec. 14, and who died with her arms protectively cradling a 6-year-old boy named Dylan Hockley.

Dylan had learning disabilities, and Annie worked with him one-on-one. His parents said in a statement: "We take great comfort in knowing that Dylan was not alone when he died, but was wrapped in the arms of his amazing aide, Anne Marie Murphy." They added: "Dylan loved Mrs. Murphy so much and pointed at her picture on our refrigerator every day."

Six teachers and staff of Sandy Hook Elementary School died that day. The principal, Dawn Hochsprung, 47, ran straight toward the shooter, trying to stop him, and was shot to death. The school psychologist, Mary Sherlach, 56, tried as well, and paid with her life.

By standing between the gunman and her 6-year-olds, Vicki Soto, 27, spared at least some of their lives while surrendering her own. Lauren Rousseau, 30, who had just been hired last month and was doing what she most wanted to do — teaching children — died from gunfire, as did 29-year-old Rachel D'Avino, who was studying for her doctorate while pursuing her passion of helping children with autism.

We will probably never know just how many children's and adult's lives were saved by the courage and selflessness of these six heroines and their surviving colleagues on the school's faculty and staff.

What we do know is that Heraclitus was right some 25 centuries ago when he wrote, "Character is destiny." The grown-ups of Sandy Hook, from everything we know, were — in those moments of maximum peril, when they confronted their own mortality — individuals of profound character. And let us not forget that they — and the others in that building — were public school teachers, public servants and, that's right, public employees.

Eleven years earlier, 343 New York firefighters — searching for and trying to save trapped and terrified fellow human beings — had marched into the fires of Hell and the jaws of death. They, too, were public employees. They were also public servants.

Public employees, according to so much cheap-shot campaign talk and too many cable commentators, are some sort of an indolent sub-species. If they are not incompetent, the propaganda goes, they must be indifferent and surly. If they are not unthinking sloths, then they must be overzealous meddlers mindlessly regulating America's businesses right out of business.

Some of you may remember the 1981 assassination attempt on President Ronald Reagan outside the Washington Hilton, when Secret Service agent Jerry Parr, then 50, thrust himself in the line of fire to shield the president and shove him into the limousine. Reacting to his agent's training to cover and evacuate by immediately taking the position between the president and the shooter was 31-year-old agent Timothy J. McCarthy.

Protecting the president as well that fateful day was a 17-year veteran Washington, D.C., police officer Thomas K. Delahanty, who had already earned a file of commendations before he was hit by a bullet that had to be removed from his neck. All three men were proud public employees.

In his first State of the Union speech, President Kennedy proclaimed, "Let the public service be a proud and lively career." You don't hear such sentiments today from our would-be leaders. But after we reflect on the character, courage and heroism of the teachers of Newtown, the firefighters of New York, and the agents and cops of Washington, D.C., let us thank our public employees for what they do for our us.

To find out more about Mark Shields and read his past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.cretors.com.

OTHER VOICES

Dec. 17
The Post and Courier of Charleston
on North Korea's rising menace:

Eight months ago, North Korea conducted another in a series of failed missile launches. That familiar flop provided welcome comic relief from the ominous endurance — and belligerence — of a Stalinist dynasty, which has been threatening its neighbors and starving its own people for more than half a century.

Five months ago, dancers in Disney costumes (without that company's approval, of course) entertained Kim Jong Un, who became North Korea's dictator after his "Fearless Leader" dad Kim Jong Il died late last year. That bizarre spectacle also was funny in a twisted way.

But last week, North Korea's successful launch of a long-range rocket was no laughing matter. Simply put, it appears the rogue nation's missile program is no longer a Mickey Mouse operation.

North Korean officials insist that the purpose of the launch was peaceful — to put a satellite in orbit. Yet missile experts correctly point out that the technology for that task matches the technology for launching long-range armed missiles. ...

Denny Roy, a senior fellow at the East-West Center in Honolulu, did offer this reassurance in comments to Reuters ...

And as Professor Andrei Lankov, a Korean studies specialist at South Korea's Kookmin University, put it in Wednesday's Los Angeles Times: "The North Koreans will continue to develop their missile and nuclear technology and, eventually, whether it takes 10 years or 20, they will have a reliable ICBM with nuclear warheads."

ICBM stands for intercontinental ballistic missile — as in a missile that could menace not just South Korea and Japan but America's West Coast.

U.S. National Security Council spokesman Tommy Vietor aptly condemned the launch as "a highly provocative act," adding. ...

Clearly, the U.S. must keep trying to form a more united front against this ascending menace, even as it works to curb the nuclear ambitions of a bellicose Iran.

Meanwhile, North Korea is all too relentlessly shifting from occasionally amusing to increasingly alarming.

Online: http://www.postandcourier.com

News and social media amok in covering massacre

JULES WITCOVER

In the Newtown massacre, as in all such tragic events in a free and open society, both the news and social media went all-out to provide the fullest coverage of what happened and why. The latter is not yet fully known. In too many instances, though, the legitimate quest for the truth was accompanied by abuse.

The hordes of print, radio and television reporters who descended on the grieving suburban Connecticut town generally pursued their grim business with due respect for the shattered sensitivities of the families and friends most immediately involved, the ancillary victims of the semi-automatic weapon attack.

In providing early details of the carnage, however, the state police spokesman reported that local citizens were being contacted by nameless social-media practitioners spreading misinformation. He also spoke of a hoax in which a caller posed as the shooter, although police had already reported that the assailant had killed himself in the school after his rampage.

Lt. J. Paul Vance of the Connecticut state police warned that "all information relative to this case" would come from him, and that "any information coming from other sources cannot be confirmed, and in many cases it has been found to be inaccurate." Furthermore, Vance reported, "There have been indications there have been quotes by people who are posing as the shooter. Anyone perpetrating that information could be subject to arrest and prosecuted federally."

Today's social media, in which anybody can "join the conversation" on the Internet, seems at times like the newest plaything, and indeed it often is. Also, hand-held computer toys and games flood the market, often replete with violent themes carried out with semi-automatic weapons of all sorts imaginable.

There was a time most news and information ran a carefully monitored gauntlet of fact-checking and fact-verifying editors in newspaper, radio and television newsrooms. Now the flow of verified information has increasingly been crowded out by free-wheeling social-media kibitzers offering a mix of unfiltered rumor and fiction, subject only to their own questionable sense of responsibility.

In that earlier world of communication called journalism, such sins as plagiarism or lies masquerading as fact had to survive an editor's scrutiny, and if discovered they guaranteed firing in disgrace. Occasionally, hoaxes were successfully committed, but the writer's own conscience or the eagle eye of a green-eyeshade copyeditor provided the reader some promise of protection.

This is not to say that social media is solely at fault for the disintegration of editorial standards. The Newtown tragedy offered ample examples of newsroom error, most glaringly in the early misidentification of the real shooter's older brother as the perpetrator, and in the report that the killer's mother was a teacher at the Sandy Hook School, which she was not.

These and other earlier reporting errors in similar episodes were often based on false information provided by sources before the truth was chased down. Cub reporters are taught early that information is only as reliable as its source, and that rumor is only rumor, not to be passed on until established as true. The old newsroom axiom — if your mother tells you she loves you, check it out — still needs to apply.

Much of social media certainly does heed the rule, but much of it also is akin to chatting across the back fence, with the added convenience of anonymity for the unseen gossipmonger. To the unguarded or gullible reader, it all too often is taken as "news" that can be banked on.

In the Newtown massacre of 20 little children and six caring adults, the details were horrible enough. They did not warrant being further polluted by misinformation, bad reporting and cruel hoaxes played on the bereaved, whether by "professional" journalists or social-media dabblers.

In the wake of the massacre, some Newtown residents posted "No Media" signs to relieve them of the harassment. It was a plea for more sensitivity, but it should also be taken as a reminder to news and social-media messengers of their obligation to guard the truth as well, in keeping a deeply concerned public properly informed.

Jules Witcover's latest book is Joe Biden: A Life of Trial and Redemption" (William Morrow). You can respond to this column at juleswitcover@comcast.net.

Obama has long work list to tackle when he returns

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's hardly a secret that Barack Obama, like every president no doubt, muses about his ultimate legacy and spot in the presidential pantheon. He approaches his second term confronting tough and shifting challenges that will play big roles in shaping the rest of his presidency and his eventual place in history.

In the coming months, Obama will have to decide where to be ambitious, where to be cautious, and where to buy time.

He draws political strength from his surprisingly easy re-election in a bad economy.

It's partly offset, however, by Republicans' continued control of the House, plus their filibuster powers in the Senate.

Some of the big issues awaiting the president's decisions are familiar, long-simmering problems. They include immigration and the need for a tenable balance between taxes, spending and borrowing.

Another issue, gun control, jumped to the national agenda's top tier this month following the massacre of first-graders and teachers in a Connecticut school. And the issue of climate change remains unresolved.

Veteran politicians and presidential historians say it's almost impossible for Obama to "go big" on all these issues. Indeed, it might prove difficult to go big on even one. While some counsel caution, others urge the president to be as bold and ambitious as possible.

"Americans are yearning for leadership," said Gil Troy, a presidential scholar at McGill University.

As a president dealing with policy, he said, Obama has generally failed to give "that visionary, powerful address that we came to know and love and expect in the 2008 campaign."

Rather than let Congress take the lead on big issues, as it did in drafting the 2009 health care overhaul, Obama should be more forceful in pushing new legislation or using his executive powers to bypass Congress where possible, Troy said.

"The gun control issue is a major opportunity for Obama to make his mark on history -- and solve a problem that has frustrated Democrats for decades," he added.

Other presidential historians, however, think Obama is severely constrained by political realities. They say he will have to carefully pick and choose which goals to emphasize in his second four years.

"I see Obama as almost uniquely handcuffed by circumstances," said John Baick of Western New England University.

The number of big, unresolved problems facing the nation, coupled with a deeply divided public and Congress, he said, leave Obama with fewer viable options than most presidents have enjoyed. At best, Baick said, the U.S. government "is a gigantic cruise liner, and the most he can do is keep us from hitting icebergs."

For instance, Baick said, "if he goes big on gun control, then it's 1994 all over again."

Then-President Bill Clinton pushed an assault weapons ban through the Democratic-led Congress that year, prompting fierce pushback from gun-rights groups. Clinton later would credit the NRA with shifting the House majority to the GOP for the first time in 40 years. However, other factors — including a House bank scandal — played big roles, too.

Paul Rego, a political scientist at Messiah College in Grantham, Penn., largely agrees with Baick.

"While President Obama does not face the same cataclysmic events that Abraham Lincoln faced, or that FDR encountered in the form of the Great Depression and World War II, his challenges are many and significant," Rego said in an email.

He said Obama "faces a hurdle that neither Lincoln nor Roosevelt had to overcome during the tumultuous years of their respective presidencies: divided government." Today's Democrats and Republicans differ so sharply about government's proper role, Rego said. He said that Obama's job "is actually harder than that of his most illustrious predecessors."

Politicians of all stripes say Obama's first priority is to resolve the deep partisan divide over tax-and-spending issues, exemplified by repeated impasses over two years that led to this week's showdown on the "fiscal cliff."

An even higher-risk conflict may arise in a few months. Congress again must either raise the federal debt ceiling or see the government default on its loans.

Beyond that, lawmakers and interest groups are watching for signs of how hard Obama might push to restrict firearms and expand illegal immigrants' rights.

Obama said last Wednesday that gun control will be a central issue in his second term. "I will use all the powers of this office to help advance efforts aimed at preventing more tragedies like this," he said of the Sandy Hook Elementary School mass killings.

The president named an interagency task force to recommend anti-violence legislation within weeks.

The strategy gives him room to distance himself somewhat from its recommendations if he wants, even though he named Vice President Joe Biden to chair the panel.

Americans' affinity for firearms runs deep, and many political activists think Obama could have more sweeping success with immigration changes.

He won a big majority of Hispanics' votes in both his elections. The trend alarms Republican strategists, who fear their party won't win another presidential election until it repairs its bad relations with Latinos.

With Democrats and Republicans increasingly aware of Hispanics' growing political clout, "this might be an historic opportunity," Troy said.

Chris Dolan, a political scientist at Lebanon Valley College in Pennsylvania, agrees. He said he expects Obama to be "incredibly ambitious on comprehensive immigration reform."

The effort, Dolan said, could "build a lasting Democratic support group. You can't do that with gun control."

Still, opposition to granting citizenship to illegal immigrants runs deep in many circles, especially the Republican Party's base. Bids for "comprehensive immigration reform" have gone nowhere in Congress in recent years.

Several advocacy groups want Obama to make the most of his executive powers to enact measures that don't require congressional action.

The Migration Policy Institute earlier this year made several suggestions regarding immigrants. They included "establishing uniform enforcement priorities," defining "what constitutes effective border control," and "allowing applicants for immigrant visas to file in the United States."

Now that Obama has won re-election, however, the advocacy group wants him instead to push a broader agenda through Congress.

"With the issue teed up for possible action," said Doris Meissner, a former commissioner at the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, antagonizing congressional Republicans with executive actions "would not be politically smart."

The political climate for sweeping immigration changes "is significantly better," Meissner said, "but that does not mean it will happen."

Even with a full plate of challenges and a hostile party controlling the House, she said, "I think Obama absolutely has to go big on immigration."

The White House has declined to detail the president's plans for a second-term agenda. Once the deficit-spending problems known as the "fiscal cliff" are addressed, said White House spokeswoman Jamie Smith, "President Obama looks forward to working on a number of issues that are critical to our future, from immigration to energy, to education and national security direction."

Health care tax hikes for 2013 may be just a start

WASHINGTON (AP) — New taxes are coming Jan. 1 to help finance President Barack Obama's health care overhaul. Most people may not notice. But they will pay attention if Congress decides to start taxing employer-sponsored health insurance, one option in play if lawmakers can ever agree on a budget deal to reduce federal deficits.

The tax hikes already on the books, taking effect in 2013, fall mainly on people who make lots of money and on the health care industry. But about half of Americans benefit from the tax-free status of employer health insurance. Workers pay no income or payroll taxes on what their employer contributes for health insurance, and in most cases on their own share of premiums as well.

It's the single biggest tax break the government allows, outstripping the mortgage interest deduction, the deduction for charitable giving and other better-known benefits. If the value of job-based health insurance were taxed like regular income, it would raise nearly $150 billion in 2013, according to congressional estimates. By comparison, wiping away the mortgage interest deduction would bring in only about $90 billion.

"If you are looking to raise revenue to pay for tax reform, that is the biggest pot of money of all," said Martin Sullivan, chief economist with Tax Analysts, a nonpartisan publisher of tax information. It's hard to see how lawmakers can avoid touching health insurance if they want to eliminate loopholes and curtail deductions so as to raise revenue and lower tax rates. Congress probably wouldn't do away with the health care tax break, but limit it in some form. Such limits could be keyed to the cost of a particular health insurance plan, the income level of taxpayers or a combination. Many economists think some kind of limit would be a good thing because it would force consumers to watch costs, and that could help keep health care spending in check. Obama's health law took a tentative step toward limits by imposing a tax on high-value health insurance plans. But that doesn't start until 2018. Next spring will be three years since Congress passed the health care overhaul but, because of a long phase-in, many of the taxes to finance the plan are only now coming into effect. Medicare spending cuts that help pay for covering the uninsured have started to take effect, but they also are staggered. The law's main benefit, coverage for 30 million uninsured people, will take a little longer. It doesn't start until Jan. 1, 2014.

The biggest tax hike from the health care law has a bit of mystery to it. The legislation calls it a "Medicare contribution," but none of the revenue will go to the Medicare trust fund. Instead, it's funneled into the government's general fund, which does pay the lion's share of Medicare outpatient and prescription costs, but also covers most other things the government does.

The new tax is a 3.8 percent levy on investment income that applies to individuals making more than $200,000 or married couples above $250,000. Projected to raise $123 billion from 2013-2019, it comes on top of other taxes on investment income. While it does apply to profits from home sales, the vast majority of sellers will not have to worry since another law allows individuals to shield up to $250,000 in gains on their home from taxation. (Married couples can exclude up to $500,000 in home sale gains.)

Investors have already been taking steps to avoid the tax, selling assets this year before it takes effect. The impact of the investment tax will be compounded if Obama and Republicans can't stave off the automatic tax increases coming next year if there's no budget agreement.

High earners will face another new tax under the health care law Jan. 1. It's an additional Medicare payroll tax of 0.9 percent on wage income above $200,000 for an individual or $250,000 for couples. This one does go to the Medicare trust fund.

Donald Marron, director of the nonpartisan Tax Policy Center, says the health care law's tax increases are medium-sized by historical standards. The center, a joint project of the Brookings Institution and the Urban Institute, provides in-depth analyses on tax issues.

They also foreshadow the current debate about raising taxes on people with high incomes. "These were an example of the president winning, and raising taxes on upper-income people," said Marron. "They are going to happen."

Other health care law tax increases taking effect Jan. 1:

— A 2.3 percent sales tax on medical devices used by hospitals and doctors. Industry is trying to delay or repeal the tax, saying it will lead to a loss of jobs. Several economists say manufacturers should be able to pass on most of the cost.

— A limit on the amount employees can contribute to tax-free flexible spending accounts for medical expenses. It's set at $2,500 for 2013, and indexed thereafter for inflation.

Hero dog missing snout seems to have beaten cancer

DAVIS, Calif. (AP) — A veterinarian at the University of California, Davis, has some good news about a dog from the Philippines who became an international hero after sacrificing its snout to save two young girls.

Veterinarian Gina Davis tells the San Francisco Chronicle the dog named Kabang appears to have beaten the cancer it was suffering from. Kabang, however, is still facing treatment for heartworms in its arteries before it can have the gaping wound on its face closed.

Newspapers in the Philippines have reported that Kabang had her snout and upper jaw sheared off when she jumped in front of a speeding motorcycle, saving her owner's daughter and niece who were apparently about to be hit.

Kabang ended up in Davis earlier this year after a nurse from Buffalo, N.Y., spearheaded a fundraising campaign to bring her to the U.S.

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Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and 3x3 block. Use logic and process elimination to solve the puzzle. The difficulty level ranges from Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest).

8		1			9		6	
	5							7
		7	5				8	
		4		3				6
	9		7		2		5	
1				5		3		
	4				8	7		
9							2	
	8		1			9		3

Rating: GOLD

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12/26/12

Solution to 12/25/12

6	9	2	7	5	8	1	3	4
3	7	4	2	6	1	5	9	8
1	5	8	3	4	9	7	6	2
7	8	9	6	1	2	4	5	3
5	3	1	4	9	7	8	2	6
2	4	6	5	8	3	9	1	7
9	6	5	8	2	4	3	7	1
8	2	3	1	7	5	6	4	9
4	1	7	9	3	6	2	8	5

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Dr. David A. Kanagy & Bob Lee's Office is moving to:
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Professional Office Building, Suite 245

Effective January 2, 2013, the current office of Dr. David Kanagy & Bob Lee located at 1401 S. Arch Avenue will be located in
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Office hours and phone number will remain the same.
Please call (330) 596 - 6520 to make an appointment!
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Kiwanis meets every Thursday at noon at the Salem Community Center. Salem Kiwanis has been part of what makes Salem great for over 90 years!

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The Kiwanis Club was entertained by the Salem High School Encore Choir directed by Atilla Samu. The club enjoyed a Medley of Holiday favorites choreographed by certain members of the choir. Below, Samu accepts the Kiwanis annual support check to the choir.

Larry Kosiba spoke to the club at its meeting Dec. 13. He gave a brief background of the organizations which he operates, SAIDC and the SOD Center. He then explained the various projects and TIF zones for which the organizations have been involved and working hard to bring businesses and building development, including housing to the Salem area. He gave an update on the Holiday Inn project with the Greek Restaurant planned on going in near Home Depot and the issues that have slowed that project down. He also discussed the housing development issues that have been in the news a lot lately. In addition, he discussed the CIC which he and others are working on bringing back to life to work in the blighted areas of the city.

The club visited Century House, a longstanding independent living facility for the elderly in Salem. The home is beautiful and was a wonderful luncheon site for the meeting. The staff was gracious and the food was delicious. The home has been in existence since 1887 and in operation since 1888. While it was originally just an independent living facility for elderly women it is now co-ed. There is currently one man living there. The members in attendance loved it so much they all decided to start reserving rooms now. Some of the members in attendance are pictured with Amy McGuire, director/manager of the home.

Each Year the Salem Kiwanis Club teams with the Salvation Army to man the kettles. Shown here is Salem Kiwanis President Shawna L'Italien and husband Mark in antlers ringing the bells. Also shown are Kiwanians Nancy McCoy and Omar Munoz manning the kettle. This fun project has been a Kiwanis tradition for many decades.

Defining statement of Kiwanis International:

"Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time. Kiwanis is a powerful voice worldwide. There are thousands of Kiwanis Clubs throughout the world on nearly every continent. Each club has its own rich history of service to its community. Salem Kiwanis has been a big part of the greater Salem Community since 1921 and in every decade and every generation has been a leader in serving its youth for the greater good. For example, 25 years ago Salem Kiwanis sponsored the Salem Youth Soccer League which today has grown to be a valued self-supporting institution."

Salem Kiwanis Club proudly supports the Salem High School Key Club

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- The name Kiwanis stems from an American Indian language of the Detroit area, "nunch Kee-wants," which, like many aboriginal terms, had a variety of meanings, including; "We have a good time," "We make a noise," "We share our talents, " or "We trade."
- Kiwanis is a world wide service club of volunteers dedicated to changing the world, one child and one community at a time.
- The Salem Club was organized on October 23, 1921. The Salem Club has 27 members.
- The best way to contact the Salem Kiwanis is by email at salem kiwanis@yahoo.com; however, if necessary, you may call 330-332-7748, and leave a message for a return call.
- Or they can see the web site: www.clubrunner.ca/salemkiwanis
- What is the Kiwanis Motto?
"We Build." Throughout its history, the Kiwanis name has been synonymous with endeavors that build character, knowledge, commerce, communities, and—through genuine concern for others—hope. We Build in Kiwanis.

On The Calendar

WED/26

COLUMBIANA

Salem Area Singles, meeting, 6 p.m., 7&14 restaurant.

ELKTON

Elkrun Township trustees, meeting, 7 p.m., township administration building on state Route 154.

SALEM

Salem High School Class of 1955, lunch, 11:30 a.m., BB Rooners.

TOPS 777, weigh-ins 5:30-6:15 p.m., meeting 6:20 p.m., Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 251 S. Broadway Ave.; 330-332-1280.

Adult Children of Alcoholics (Al-Anon), 7:30 p.m., Episcopal Church; 330-831-4983 or 330-332-8233 after 6 p.m.

SEBRING

Al-Anon meetings, Pine Lake Christian Church, 636 Pine Lake Road. Beginner's meeting, 6:30 p.m.; regular meeting, 7 p.m.

THU/27

DAMASCUS

TOPS Chapter 1329, 9 a.m., Damascus United Methodist Church; 330-525-7785.

LISBON

David Anderson High School Class of 1955, breakfast, 10 a.m., Taste of Country.

Beaver Local Board of Education, Buildings and Grounds Committee, 5:30 p.m., high school room 2.

Help Hotline Crisis Center's support group of the Survivors of Suicide, meeting, 6 p.m., Columbiana County Counseling Center, SR 154; 330-424-7767.

SALEM

TOPS 1598, 9:50 a.m., First United Methodist Church. Weigh-ins, 8:45-9:30 a.m.; 330-332-1127. Handicap accessible.

Salem High School Class of 1954, breakfast, 9 a.m., Salem Hills Golf and Country Club.

Overeaters Anonymous, 6 p.m., Faith Chapel, 511 E. Pershing St.; 330-853-9311.

Salem City Board of Health, public hearing on food service fees, 9:30 a.m., health department, KSU City Center.

Salem City Board of Health meeting, 10 a.m., health department, KSU City Center.

Kaiser/National retirees and past employees, breakfast, 8:30 a.m., Adele's Place.

FRI/28

FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP

Trustees, special meeting, noon, township government building, Fairfield School Road.

GOSHEN TOWNSHIP

Board of Trustees, 5 p.m., Administration Building.

SALEM

Food distribution, 9-11:30 a.m., Salem Community Pantry, 794 E. Third St.

Salem Community Hospital and Salem Community Center's blood drive, 1-7 p.m., at SCC, 1098 N. Ellsworth Ave. Appointments, 330-332-7227. Walk-ins accepted.

Bingo, 6:45 p.m., Salem Little Quakers Hall, 1688 S. Lincoln Ave.

Addiction recovery, open meeting, 7 p.m., Faith Chapel, 511 E. Pershing St.; 330-332-8573.

SAT/29

NORTH LIMA

All-you-can-eat breakfast buffet, 7-10 a.m., North Lima Mennonite Church, 90 Mennonite Drive; donations accepted.

SUN/30

SALEM

Salem High School Class of 1969, New Year's Eve celebration, noon, BB Rooners.

WASHINGTONVILLE

Breakfast, 8-11 a.m., Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5532. Carryouts, 330-427-2533.

MON/31

NORTH LIMA

New Year's Eve Victory Gospel Jubilee, 7 p.m., North Lima Business Complex. Buffet dinner by the Hen House Cafe, 5:30-7:30 p.m., $12. Reservations and free Jubilee tickets, 800-284-9709.

SALEM

New Year's Eve Salem at the Masonic Temple, 788 E. State St. Turkey dinners, sandwiches, sides and pizza, beginning at 4:30 p.m. The Stockdale Family Band, The Allegheny Drifters, and Zack Paxton, rotating from 6-10:50 p.m.

Banquet in Salem, 5-7 p.m., Memorial Building; pork loin and sauerkraut. Butch Hallewell will perform Christmas carols.

New Year's Eve party, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 892, 496 Arch St. Music by Damaged Goods; $5 for non-members.

WED/2

LEETONIA

Book discussion, Anita Shreve's "Light on Snow," 10 a.m., Leetonia Community Public Library.

Toddler Playgroup, 10 a.m., Leetonia Community Public Library.

SALEM

Salem Community Pantry, closed today.

TOPS 777, weigh-ins 5:30-6:15 p.m., meeting 6:20 p.m., Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 251 S. Broadway Ave.; 330-332-1280.

Adult Children of Alcoholics (Al-Anon), 7:30 p.m., Episcopal Church; 330-831-4983 or 330-332-8233 after 6 p.m.

SEBRING

Al-Anon meetings, Pine Lake Christian Church, 636 Pine Lake Road. Beginner's meeting, 6:30 p.m.; regular meeting, 7 p.m.

THU/3

DAMASCUS

TOPS Chapter 1329, 9 a.m., Damascus United Methodist Church; 330-525-7785.

LEETONIA

Red Cross blood drive, 12:30-5:30 p.m.; blood pressure screening, 1-3 p.m.; Leetonia Community Public Library.

SALEM

TOPS 1598, 9:50 a.m., First United Methodist Church. Weigh-ins, 8:45-9:30 a.m.; 330-332-1127. Handicap accessible.

Overeaters Anonymous, 6 p.m., Faith Chapel, 511 E. Pershing St.; 330-853-9311.

Salem Bird Study Club, 7 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 436 E. Second St.; use rear entrance.

FRI/4

NEGLEY

American Red Cross blood drive, 1-6 p.m., and open house, Negley Masonic Lodge, 50873 Richardson Ave.; appointments, redcrossblood.org or 800-733-2767.

SALEM

Food distribution, 9-11:30 a.m., Salem Community Pantry, 794 E. Third St.

Bingo, 6:45 p.m., Salem Little Quakers Hall, 1688 S. Lincoln Ave.

Addiction recovery, open meeting, 7 p.m., Faith Chapel, 511 E. Pershing St.; 330-332-8573.

SAT/5

GOSHEN TOWNSHIP

Board of trustees, 9 a.m., administration building.

SALEM

Salem High School Class of 1972, breakfast, 9 a.m., Salem Hills Golf and Country Club.

Salem High School Class of 1949, breakfast, 9:30 a.m., Salem Hills Golf and Country Club.

Salem High School Class of 1963, lunch, 11:30 a.m., Salem Hills Golf and Country Club.

SUN/6

SEBRING

American Legion Post 76, monthly breakfast, 8 a.m.-noon, post home, 395 W. California Ave.

MON/7

COLUMBIANA

TOPS 720, Presbyterian Church, weigh-ins-9-9:35 a.m.; 330-482-5946.

LEETONIA

Restoration, Renovation, and Beautification Committee of Columbiana, meeting, 6:30 p.m., Columbiana Womens Club.

LISBON

Al-Anon meeting, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Fleming House, 7300 Rose Drive.

Alateen meeting, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Fleming House, 7300 Rose Drive.

SALEM

Food distribution, 9-11:30 a.m., Salem Community Pantry, 794 E. Third St.

R-Weigh weight groups, 1 and 5 p.m. meetings, First Friends Church, 1028 Jennings Ave.; 330-332-1078.

Emotions Anonymous, 2-3 p.m., Salvation Army; 330-332-1045.

TOPS 1380, 6:15 p.m., Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 251 S. Broadway Ave.

Bingo, 6:45 p.m., Salem Little Quakers Hall, 1688 S. Lincoln Ave.; 330-332-2152.

TUE/8

LEETONIA

Leetonia Community Public Library Board of Trustees, 5:30 p.m., Leetonia Community Public Library.

LISBON

Overeaters Anonymous, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Fleming House behind McDonald's; 330-337-0940.

SALEM

Salem Community Hospital retirees and former employees, informal lunch, 11 a.m., Das Dutch Haus in Columbiana.

Rotary Club, lunch, 11:45 a.m., Salem Community Center.

Food distribution, 5-7:30 p.m., Salem Community Pantry, 794 E. Third St.

Salem High School Class of 1968, dinner, 6 p.m., Ricky's English Pub.

Salem Jubilee Chorus practice. Male singers wanted, 7-8:30 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 244 S. Broadway Ave.; 330-337-6682.

WED/9

LEETONIA

Toddler Playgroup, 10 a.m., Leetonia Community Public Library.

SALEM

Men of the Salem High School Class of 1960, lunch, noon, Salem Hills Golf and Country Club.

TOPS 777, weigh-ins 5:30-6:15 p.m., meeting 6:20 p.m., Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 251 S. Broadway Ave.; 330-332-1280.

Adult Children of Alcoholics (Al-Anon), 7:30 p.m., Episcopal Church; 330-831-4983 or 330-332-8233 after 6 p.m.

SEBRING

Al-Anon meetings, Pine Lake Christian Church, 636 Pine Lake Road. Beginner's meeting, 6:30 p.m.; regular meeting, 7 p.m.

THU/10

DAMASCUS

TOPS Chapter 1329, 9 a.m., Damascus United Methodist Church; 330-525-7785.

SALEM

TOPS 1598, 9:50 a.m., First United Methodist Church. Weigh-ins, 8:45-9:30 a.m.; 330-332-1127. Handicap accessible.

Overeaters Anonymous, 6 p.m., Faith Chapel, 511 E. Pershing St.; 330-853-9311.

Salem High School Class of 1968, 45th reunion planning meeting, Alumni Association, 6 p.m.

FRI/11

LEETONIA

"Breakfast at Tiffany's," 1 p.m., Leetonia Community Public Library.

SALEM

Food distribution, 9-11:30 a.m., Salem Community Pantry, 794 E. Third St.

Bingo, 6:45 p.m., Salem Little Quakers Hall, 1688 S. Lincoln Ave.

Addiction recovery, open meeting, 7 p.m., Faith Chapel, 511 E. Pershing St.; 330-332-8573.

SAT/12

BOARDMAN

Goodness Grows benefit, 5-10 p.m., Glenwood Christian Fellowship Cafe, 7872 Glenwood Ave.; 330-549-9408.

LISBON

Beaver Local High School Class of 1984's spaghetti dinner benefit for the Chuck Cornell family, 4-7 p.m., high school; donations, 330-801-2597. Monetary donations to: First National Community Bank, P.O. Box 769, East Liverpool 43920; checks payable to BLHS Class of 1984.

SUN/13

SALEM

Former A&P employees, dinner, 3 p.m., BB Rooners.

MON/14

COLUMBIANA

TOPS 720, Presbyterian Church, weigh-ins-9-9:35 a.m.; 330-482-5946.

LEETONIA

Nonfiction book discussion, P. Strathern's "The Artist, the Philosopher and the Warrior," 6 p.m., Leetonia Community Public Library.

LISBON

Public Employee Retirees #59, meeting, 1 p.m., Taste of Country.

Al-Anon meeting, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Fleming House, 7300 Rose Drive.

Alateen meeting, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Fleming House, 7300 Rose Drive.

SALEM

Food distribution, 9-11:30 a.m., Salem Community Pantry, 794 E. Third St.

R-Weigh weight groups, 1 and 5 p.m. meetings, First Friends Church, 1028 Jennings Ave.; 330-332-1078.

Emotions Anonymous, 2-3 p.m., Salvation Army; 330-332-1045.

TOPS 1380, 6:15 p.m., Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 251 S. Broadway Ave.

"Clean Out the Craft Cupboard" Getting Crafty class, 6:30 p.m., Salem Public Library, Quaker Room. Registration required at adult circulation desk or 330-332-0042.

Bingo, 6:45 p.m., Salem Little Quakers Hall, 1688 S. Lincoln Ave.; 330-332-2152.

Salem Area Amateur Radio Association, entry level ham radio classes, 7 p.m., home of Ginger Grilli, 1530 E. State St.; 330-337-7225 or 330-549-3051.

TUE/15

LEETONIA

Leetonia Community Public Library Friends of the Library, 6 p.m., Leetonia Community Public Library; guests welcome.

Veterans Outpost and Home Front (family) support meetings, 7 p.m., Point Man's of Leetonia, 116 1/2 Oak St.; 800-877-8387.

LISBON

Overeaters Anonymous, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Fleming House behind McDonald's; 330-337-0940.

SALEM

Rotary Club, lunch, 11:45 a.m., Salem Community Center.

SALEM AREA ILLUSTRATED MAP

Local artist Craig Wetzel is the illustrator of our community map highlighting businesses in Salem, Washingtonville, Beloit, Damascus, Hanoverton and Alliance.

The map is a beautiful representation of our area, printed on a glossy, heavy stock paper, measuring 27"x40", suitable for framing.

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Mileage charge of $.20/mile over 24,000 miles.

35 MPG HWY[2]

2013 SILVERADO 1500 ALL-STAR EDITION 4WD EXT. CAB

LOW-MILEAGE LEASE EXAMPLE FOR QUALIFIED LESSEES

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$395 Due at lease termination.
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Tax, title, license and dealer fees extra.
Mileage charge of $.18/mile over 39,000 miles.

ULTRA LOW-MILEAGE LEASE EXAMPLE FOR GM EMPLOYEES AND ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS

$199 PER MONTH

24 MONTHS **$2,119** DUE AT SIGNING[4]

No security deposit required.
Tax, title, license and dealer fees extra.
Mileage charge of $.20/mile over 20,000 miles.

2013 TRAVERSE FWD LS

LOW-MILEAGE LEASE EXAMPLE FOR QUALIFIED LESSEES

$259 PER MONTH

24 MONTHS **$2,919** DUE AT SIGNING[5]

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24 MPG HWY[2]

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1 Payments are for a 2013 Cruze LS with automatic transmission and an MSRP of $19,020. 24 monthly payments total $3,564.96. Option to purchase at lease end for an amount to be determined at lease signing. Ally must approve lease. Mileage charge is $.20/mile over 24,000 miles. Lessee pays for excess wear. Not available with other offers. Residency restrictions apply. Take delivery by 1/2/13. **2** Based on EPA estimates. **3** Payments are for a 2013 Silverado 1500 4WD LT Extend Cab and an MSRP of $36,175. 39 monthly payments total $12,042.81. Option to purchase at lease end for an amount to be determined at lease signing. US Bank must approve lease. Mileage charge is $.18/mile over 39,000 miles. Lessee pays for excess wear. Not available with other offers. Residency restrictions apply. Take delivery by 1/2/13. **4** Payments are for a 2013 Silverado 1500 4WD LT Extend Cab and an MSRP of $34,175. 24 monthly payments total $4,770. Option to purchase at lease end for an amount to be determined at lease signing. Ally must approve lease. Mileage charge is $.20/mile over 20,000 miles. Lessee pays for excess wear. Not available with other offers. Residency restrictions apply. Take delivery by 1/2/13. **5** Payments are for a 2013 Traverse FWD LS and an MSRP of $31,335. 24 monthly payments total $6,213.60. Option to purchase at lease end for an amount to be determined at lease signing. Ally must approve lease. Mileage charge is $.20/mile over 24,000 miles. Lessee pays for excess wear. Not available with other offers. Residency restrictions apply. Take delivery by 1/2/13. **6** Based on Polk CYE 2011 Passenger Car and Light Truck New Retail Registration in the Youngstown DMA

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PREP BASKETBALL — WELLSVILLE FRESHMAN HELPS BRING BACK DECADES OLD TRADITION

THE BIG ORANGE MACHINE

IS ON THE MOVE, AGAIN

15-year-old Michael Reiner helps unite Wellsville hoops program, community

By **JON RUDDER**
Staff Writer

WELLSVILLE — "Dawson's Circus" was the term coined for the raucous atmosphere that encompassed Wellsville basketball at old Beacom Memorial Gymnasium.

The "Dawson" came from then head coach Bob Dawson, whose teams had an unprecedented 136-15 record in a six-year span from 1970-76. Dawson was at the helm of the Wellsville program for 13 seasons from 1968-1981, and his resume included three undefeated regular seasons, three No. 1 rankings in the Ohio polls and a trip to the state final four.

"Circus," came from the efforts of students, fans, and cheerleaders among others that made Wellsville such a difficult place to play. The Circus was highlighted by the "Big Orange Machine," a cardboard cutout of a tank-like vehicle that moved along the wall under spotlight in a pitch-black gymnasium.

A balloon emblazoned with that evening's opponent logo awaited the machine, and when it arrived, a hammer swung down and broke the balloon.

Up came the lights, as well as the decibel level, and the game began.

The Big Orange Machine was a mainstay for over a decade at Tigers' basketball games, until 1981. Beacom Memorial received new lights that took too long to warm back up after being switched off, which effectively ended the exciting tradition.

The Big Orange Machine was lost, but not forever; and certainly not forgotten.

The man behind it all

The idea to recreate the environment of "Dawson's Circus" was that of freshman Michael Reiner, who is anything but your typical 15-year-old.

Reiner, who walks with a crutch as a result of Cerebral Palsy, is as spirited as kids come, and a competitor to boot.

After winning the county spelling bee, Reiner competed in the Scripps National Spelling Bee where he advanced to the third round before being eliminated.

This spring he's got his eyes set on running track. Reiner has been working on building up the strength in his legs

"I've been working in the weight room," Michael said. "I do three days a week right now and I want to try to get up to four."

His complications do little to slow him down. Reiner also serves as the public address voice for the home team's player introductions.

"I get a little bit nervous, but it comes with repetition. I try and practice and do a good job under pressure, and I deliver most of the time," he said with a chuckle.

It hasn't been an easy road to ninth grade. In fact, it has had more than its share of bumps, but a few miracles along the way.

When he was 13-years-old, Reiner underwent a complicated surgery in an attempt to correct the problems that plagued his legs.

"He couldn't stand and needed to use a cane. He couldn't have walked from me to you before the surgery," his mother Paula, who teaches at Garfield Elementary School, said.

The procedure was revealed as a possibility while on a visit to a doctor's appointment for his twin brother, Mitchell.

"Mitchell had played football. He had been in the game not even three minutes, and took a hit that broke his leg," she continued. "We had him to the orthopedic doctor, and just chatting with him, I asked if he had ever saw kids with Cerebral Palsy. He said no, but I know this awesome man in Delaware. I went home and Googled him, and found people come from all over the world to be treated by him."

The surgeon, Dr. Freeman Miller, performed multiple surgeries at once. Seeing her son walk and move about now is nothing short of amazing for his mother.

"It's been life changing for him to be able to walk around now with one crutch, or no crutch," she said. "There were many things that fell into place. We shouldn't have been able to get in to see the doctor, he had no surgery appointments available, and everything just kind of came together like it was meant to be. He really did change Michael's life, for him to be able to get around now."

The ability to move about the gymnasium is of relatively little difficulty now, and it's not uncommon to see Michael socializing with fans before, during, and after basketball games.

"I always say that he's going to be the mayor one day," his mother added. "When we're out, we actually have to wait on him because he's talking to everyone from age six to 96."

Brotherly love

Michael is just one half of the duo that is the Reiner twins. The two have a unique bond that has been strengthened by all that they have endured together.

"They were both born 26 weeks early; Michael weighed one pound, 14 ounces. Mitchell was one pound, 15 ounces," their mother said.

Often never far apart, Michael can always be found in the stands at basketball games, watching Mitchell, who plays on the J.V. team.

When Mitchell sunk a crucial free throw against Southern Local in the waning seconds of the J.V. game on Dec. 11, Michael could be seen giving a celebratory fist pump at the opposite end of the floor. He was also the first one to congratulate Mitchell when he emerged from the locker room minutes later.

"It was intense, it felt pretty good coming out of the locker room seeing everyone and giving me high-fives," Mitchell said. "He (Michael) never misses a game. He always wants to come watch and gives me pointers a lot too," he added with a smile.

"Even as a freshman, you can still do big things," Michael said. "Just look at my brother, sinking that free throw."

Throughout his surgical process, Mitchell watched as his brother painstakingly went though a rigorous rehabilitation process.

"Yeah that was pretty big. When he walked he walked with sort of a crouch. Now he has straight legs and is getting better every day," Mitchell said. "We had a hospital bed in the living room, a lot of therapy afterwards to keep him from going back to where he was. There was some pain involved, but nothing he would never use as an excuse. He's not like that."

On the move, again

Michael first learned of the machine from his uncle, Steve Poynter. Poynter, a 1972 graduate of Wellsville High School told his nephew the story of the "Big Orange Machine," and all of the festivities that went along with it.

When Reiner learned of the new lights that would be installed at Wellsville High School's gym, he became intrigued at the idea of recreating the Big Orange Machine.

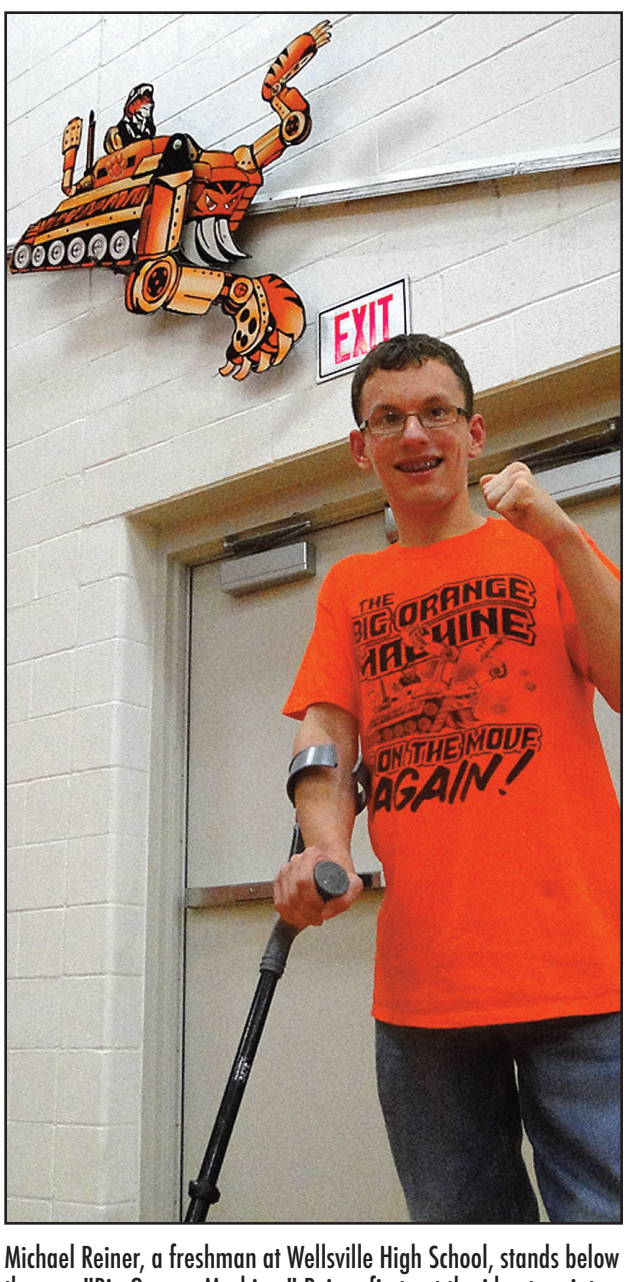
"I had never seen or heard of anything like it, so I thought 'Hey let's start it up again because it's something

See MACHINE, **2B**

On track

The Big Orange Machine is shown on its track that is secured to the wall in the Wellsville High School gymnasium. The new machine is similar in size to its predecessor, and was made by Campbell Signs of East Liverpool, Ohio. (Salem News/Jon Rudder)

The entire Reiner Family is shown following a Wellsville basketball game. Picture from left to right are his brother Mitchell, his father, Bill, Michael and his mother, Paula. (Salem News/Jon Rudder)



Michael Reiner, a freshman at Wellsville High School, stands below the new "Big Orange Machine." Reiner first got the idea to reintroduce the "Big Orange Machine" when he learned that the gymnasium would be receiving new lights, that would allow them to be turned off for player introductions. (Salem News/Jon Rudder)

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SNSPORTS

2CHOICES

Weekly sports poll

Will MLB players who used steroids eventually be elected into the Hall of Fame?

Previously asked

Who wins the BCS national championship? Notre Dame or Alabama?

Bama 40%
ND 60%

New poll weekly!
Vote and discuss in the sports section of
www.salemnews.net

WHAT2WATCH

COLLEGE FOOTBALL
7:30 p.m.
ESPN — Little Caesars Pizza Bowl at Detroit, Western Kentucky vs. Central Michigan
SOCCER
9:55 a.m.
ESPN2 — Premier League, Newcastle at Manchester United

2DAYINSPORTS

Dec. 26

1908 — Jack Johnson becomes the first black man to win the world heavyweight boxing title, with a 14th-round knockout of Tommy Burns in Sydney, Australia.

1917 — Toronto's Harry Cameron becomes the first defenseman to score four goals in a game as the Maple Leafs beat the Montreal Canadiens 7-5.

1943 — Sid Luckman throws five touchdown passes to lead the Chicago Bears to a 41-21 victory over the Washington Redskins for the NFL championship.

1946 — The United States wins the Davis Cup with a 5-0 sweep of Australia, the worst defeat for a defending champion.

1954 — Otto Graham scores three touchdowns and passes for three more to lead the Cleveland Browns to a 56-10 rout of the Detroit Lions for the NFL title.

1955 — The Cleveland Browns intercept six passes, one of which is returned 65 yards for a touchdown by Don Paul, in a 38-14 victory over the Los Angeles Rams for the NFL championship. Otto Graham of the Browns passes for two touchdowns and scores two more.

1960 — The Philadelphia Eagles come from behind twice on a 35-yard pass to Tommy McDonald from Norm Van Brocklin and a 5-yard run by Ted Dean to beat the Green Bay Packers 17-13 for the NFL title.

1965 — The Buffalo Bills win their second straight AFL championship with a 27-0 victory over the San Diego Chargers. The Chargers are able to get inside Buffalo's 25-yard line only once.

1986 — Center Doug Jarvis of the Hartford Whalers plays his 915th consecutive game, setting an NHL record.

1999 — Mike Vanderjagt's 21-yard field goal with 4 seconds left gives the Indianapolis Colts a 29-28 win over the Cleveland Browns. Indianapolis, which went 3-13 in 1998, makes NFL history by winning 10 more games than it did the previous season.

2001 — Steve Nash scores 27 points and makes a 3-pointer with 0.6 seconds remaining in overtime as the Dallas Mavericks overcame a 53-point effort by Tim Duncan and beat the San Antonio Spurs 126-123.

2004 — Peyton Manning breaks Dan Marino's single-season touchdown pass record when he throws his 48th and 49th of the season, rallying Indianapolis from a 31-16 fourth-quarter deficit to win 34-31 in overtime over San Diego.

2004 — Steve Nash has 18 points and 13 assists to become the first NBA player to register 10 or more assists in 11 consecutive victories as Phoenix beat Toronto 106-94.

NBA

Lakers beat Knicks; Heat wins Finals rematch over Thunder

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The pieces of the puzzle that have been the Lakers' confounding season so far are starting to fall into place.

Kobe Bryant engineered a second-half comeback, the defense stepped up, and Los Angeles beat the New York Knicks 100-94 on Tuesday, extending its winning streak to five games.

"We're .500," a smiling Dwight Howard said. "We did it on Christmas, too. I knew this day would come."

Bryant scored 34 points in his NBA-record 15th Christmas Day game and Metta World Peace added 20 points and seven rebounds while defending Carmelo Anthony, whose 34 points led the Knicks. Anthony said he hyperextended his left knee, but expects to play on Wednesday in Phoenix.

Bryant, the league's leading scorer, has topped 30 or more points in nine straight games.

"If you're going to play on Christmas, it's always better to win. Makes it all worthwhile," said Bryant, who would soon hop a flight to Denver, getting there ahead of the Nuggets, who played the Clippers in the other half of the holiday doubleheader at Staples Center.

The Lakers improved to 14-14 — 9-9 under new coach Mike D'Antoni — and upped their holiday record to 21-18, including 13-9 at home. They returned to .500 for the first time since they were 8-8 on Nov. 30.

"It's so early in the season to have turned a corner," Bryant said. "We have everybody in the lineup and we're starting to see how we want to play."

The Knicks controlled most of the game behind Anthony and J.R. Smith, who had 24 points. But they struggled offensively in the fourth, when Anthony was limited to seven points and Smith had five as the Lakers' defense clamped down. World Peace fouled out with 1:58 to play and the Lakers ahead by four.

World Peace credited his defense on Anthony to "old-school basketball."

"I'm back in shape and it's a little tough to guard me," he said.

Steve Nash said: "This is what he's been doing all year. He gets his hands on a lot of balls, pounds on the other team's best guy. You can't win without that type of effort."

Smith's 3-pointer pulled New York to 96-94. After Pau Gasol made one of two free throws, Smith missed another 3 that would have tied the game at 97 with 32 seconds left.

"We missed a lot of easy shots, a lot of little chippers around the basket, shots that we normally make," Anthony said. "There were some plays that we thought should have went our way down the stretch, but for the most part, we fought. I'll take this effort any night. If we continue to play with this effort, we'll win a lot of games."

With Bryant double-teamed, Nash passed to Gasol, who dunked with 12 seconds to go, punctuating a win that sent Lakers fans, frustrated by the team's struggles and coaching change, home happy. The Lakers avenged a 116-107 loss in New York on Dec. 13.

A smiling Howard called Gasol's driving slam "a submarine dunk because he was very low to the ground."

Gasol responded, "I don't dunk as often as I used to so it felt good. I took it right down the lane and finished strong."

Nash had 16 points, 11 assists and six rebounds in his second game in nearly two months. He missed 24 straight games while recovering from a small fracture in his lower left leg. Howard had 14 points and 12 rebounds, and Gasol had 13 points and eight rebounds.

"It was an important win for us as we were a little bit desperate," Nash said. "We've gone through a lot since Mike Brown — new coach, new offense. It's been a difficult transition."

Bryant had eight of the Lakers' first 10 points to open the fourth during a run that provided their first lead since the opening quarter in a game matching the two teams that have played the most on Christmas Day.

They took the lead for good on Bryant's basket with 7:38 remaining. Anthony and Tyson Chandler were in foul trouble in the fourth, with Chandler fouling out late.

"They just were a little bit more aggressive," Anthony said. "Kobe got it going and Steve Nash hit some big shots down the stretch. When you have a guy like Nash doing that, it's kind of tough. Those guys know how to play. They've been waiting for Steve Nash to get back, so it's just a matter of then sticking it out until he did."

The Knicks opened the third on a 15-5 run, with Anthony setting up on the perimeter and hitting two 3-pointers as part of his 10 points that stretched their lead to 61-53. His jumper provided the Knicks' largest lead of the game, 69-60.

Bryant and Nash ignited the quiet atmosphere by leading a 17-9 run that drew the Lakers to 78-77 going into the fourth. They combined to score 15 points, although Bryant missed two free throws to end the third that would have given the Lakers their first lead since early in the game.

their lockers with the tag, "From Kobe Merry Xmas 2012" contained headphones. "Can't ever have enough," he said. ... The Lakers were all in white, while the Knicks were all in orange down to their socks in a color similar to Syracuse. ... Among the celebs holidaying at Staples Center were Rihanna and Chris Brown, Adam Levine, Samuel L. Jackson, George Lopez and Richard Lewis. Vanessa Bryant and her two young daughters sat courtside opposite the Lakers bench.

Heat 103, Thunder 97

MIAMI (AP) — LeBron James finished with 29 points, nine assists and eight rebounds, Dwyane Wade scored 21, and the Miami Heat survived a frantic finish to beat the Oklahoma City Thunder 103-97 in an NBA Finals rematch on Tuesday.

Mario Chalmers scored a season-high 20 for the Heat, who matched the franchise's best 25-game start at 19-6. Chris Bosh added 16 for Miami, which has beaten the Thunder five straight times going back to last June's title series.

Kevin Durant scored 33 points and Russell Westbrook added 21 for Oklahoma City, but both Thunder stars missed potentially game-tying 3-point attempts in the final seconds. Serge Ibaka and Kevin Martin each added 15 for the Thunder, who have dropped two straight for the first time this season.

The Heat went 19 for 19 from the foul line, the second-best effort in franchise history. They were 30 for 30 at Boston on March 24, 1993.

And it was a wild finals rematch — one that lived up to expectations.

There was a fast start by the reigning champions, a one-handed dunk by James on an offensive rebound that will be added to his copious highlight reel, a scrum after a hard foul that led to double-technicals on Wade and Ibaka early in the fourth, an easy rally by the Thunder from an early double-digit deficit, and even a jawing match between Durant and James in the final minutes.

Such was the intensity that James slumped over the scorer's table with 1:08 left, exhausted.

Oh, and there was a wild finish, as well.

Wade lost the ball on an ill-advised, behind-the-back dribble, and the turnover set up Durant for a two-handed dunk that got the Thunder within 96-95 with 44.1 seconds remaining.

Needing a stop on the next trip, the Thunder forgot to play defense instead. Kendrick Perkins and Ibaka both were confused on the ensuing Miami possession, and Bosh was left alone to take a pass from James and throw down a dunk that restored Miami's three-point edge.

Oklahoma City got within one when Durant made a jumper over James, but no closer

MACHINE

FROM 1B

positive and good for the school system,'" he said. "I'm loving it because it's getting people out to the games, and that's what it's for. It's about showing pride and bringing people together."

Michael enlisted a little help from Jeff Campbell, a 1981 graduate of Wellsville High School.

"Even though he coaches at Beaver Local, he still has some tiger blood that runs in him — he told me 'Wellsville Alumni always give back.' He's a wonderful human being and person," Reiner said.

"I thought it was exciting (the idea). We actually tried to do it a few years back with some signs that said 'the big orange machine is on the move, again' but it has to be adopted by the kids," Campbell said. "If not it's just some thing on the wall. If they get into it it's a lot of fun."

Campbell is also responsible for the tiger that leaps through the gymnasium's north wall. With a little work and some design changes, the newest rendition of the Big Orange Machine came to life and assumed its place along the wall.

"It's a little bit different, but a lot of it is very close to the original," Campbell said. "It used to have a hammer instead of a claw. There was never a tiger sticking out of the top, but the rest of it is pretty close to what it was like."

The tiger that is seen operating the machine further reinforced his idea for the name of the student section it would represent.

"The funny thing is, I was thinking about calling our student section the Orange Army," Michael said. "And when I saw the design of the Army Tiger in the tank, I thought it was perfect."

The new Big Orange Machine takes its place in a similar location to its predecessor.

"Size-wise it's almost exactly the same. I knew it was a cutout of a 4'x 8' and that's about what it was. It looks smaller in this gym, but if it keeps going and everyone keeps going nuts over it I'll make him a bigger one."

Campbell grew up during the Big Orange Machine heyday and got to have his name introduced among the starters during one of the final seasons of the tradition. He fondly remembers the thought process from kid to player.

The Big Orange Machine's track runs just below the plaque that honors all of Wellsville's All-Ohio selections. The Big Orange Machine is activated by the push of a garage door opener and moves down the track towards a balloon with the opponents name and logo on it. When the machine reaches the balloon, the large paw swings forward and pops the balloon. (Salem News/Jon Rudder)

"To me that was it man, you couldn't wait to go as a kid and sit there and watch those guys play like Joe March and Larry Baldasare," Campbell said. "Then when your brother is playing you're cheering and then when it's your turn, you hear the pep band playing 'The Horse' and 'Hawaii 5-0' and it was just fantastic."

"The band was into it, the kids were into it, and parents were into it. So many people came to our games that weren't from Wellsville just because of the brand of basketball," he went on. "It was fast, it was fun and high-paced, and the effort was always there or Bob Dawson would sit you on the bench. He was the Bobby Knight of the area."

Once the design was finalized and the machine was in hand, next came the task of securing it to the gymnasium wall. Help wasn't far away, and Joe Traina, district Maintenance Supervisor, was there to lend a hand.

"We have a lot of help in this," Reiner said. "I can't thank everyone enough. People say 'you've done a great thing here,' but it's not me, it's we."

The new machine is attached to a garage door track. With the push of a button, the Big Orange Machine is on its' way down the track towards the balloon. When it reaches the end, the arm swings down and pops the balloon.

"Every person that he talked to was excited about it, from administration to anyone," his mother said. "Joe Traina was so helpful getting that thing up and all of the kids are excited about it and it's great."

The goal

The motivation behind all of Reiner's work is the hope to bring unity amongst Wellsville basketball fans.

"I want to make it so kids' plans on Tuesday and Friday nights are to come to the games," he said. "It would be awesome to build it with the group that I'm with, because I love these kids, and we can have memories about 'when I was in high school we used to go to games and the Big Orange Machine came out and we would go nuts."

His first opportunity to introduce the Big Orange Machine came during a pep rally before the boy's first game against East Liverpool. Reiner spoke to classmates, described the new pregame routine and made sure to thank everyone that played a part in making his idea come to life.

With his mother in attendance to see him speak, Michael didn't disappoint.

"I came and watched the pep rally and it was amazing. I was asking him that morning if he had written anything down. He had a few bullet points but not much else," she said. "I would have had my whole speech on there and I've been teaching for years. He had a list of people he wanted to thank and it made me teary eyed."

Michael came up with idea after idea of ways to get as many people involved with the new Big Orange Machine as possible, and was constantly reaching out to learn more.

"I would go around to people and look for a video, and I got a hold of Randy Allmon, who was in charge of the "Rah Rah Shu Shu" cheer, so I thought 'hey let's get the cheerleaders involved," he said. "Then I heard that the band would play, so I thought we should get them involved so they could have fun with it too. It's not just basketball; it's a lifestyle of togetherness."

Seeing the reception that her son has received for his efforts is somewhat of a shock for his mother. She cautioned him of taking on such a daunting task as a freshman, but couldn't be more proud of how it has turned out.

"I think everyone is so pumped, and I think they love how pumped he is about getting the community involved and getting the kids involved," she said. "People ask us about the shirts. I see people on Facebook, that live outside of the community, asking people to get them a shirt for when they come home. "

So far, his efforts have been a success. Renewed energy in a growing student section is proof of that.

"It's very exciting to have students in the game now. We haven't had that in a while," athletic director Don Elliot said. "They stand, they cheer. That's all a result of the things that Michael has tried to do. The kids are into it and that's the bottom line, that's what we wanted to get out of it; more kids in the gym."

Michael started working toward bringing back the Big Orange Machine near the end of high school football season. For it all to have come together so quickly is something special in its' own.

"I wasn't sure if we could put it all together so quickly, but he went to everyone and put it together," Mitchell said. "Part of me is surprise, but part of me isn't because knowing my brother."

Michael believes this is only just the beginning, and expects much more to come from the Big Orange machine.

"It's just awesome feedback from everybody that we're getting from this," Reiner said. "The effort to try and make it huge, is what's going to make it huge, and I love it here because of that reason."

SPORTS 2012

Sad sagas story of 2012

In many cases off-the-field news overshadowed what happened on it

By TIM REYNOLDS
Associated Press

Jerry Sandusky will spend the rest of his life in prison, Penn State football played under NCAA sanctions and Joe Paterno passed away.

Lance Armstrong abandoned his fight against doping allegations. Roger Clemens won his court battle, despite lingering skepticism over whether he used steroids. The impact of early-stage dementia forced Pat Summitt to step down from her coaching perch.

Again and again, it seemed, the sports world in 2012 saw the end of long tales with tragic or, at best, bittersweet endings.

And in so many cases, off-the-field news overshadowed what happened on it:

— In State College, Pa., where the Sandusky mess at Penn State destroyed lives and radically changed the face of a proud football program.

— In Washington, where Clemens emerged from court a winner, after a mistrial the first time around on charges he lied to Congress about performance-enhancing drug use.

— In Kansas City, Mo., where Chiefs linebacker Jovan Belcher shot and killed his girlfriend, then drove to the team's facility in the Arrowhead Stadium complex, thanked his coach and general manager, and turned the gun on himself.

— In Austin, Texas, where the news broke that Armstrong decided to give up his long fight against doping charges, saying "enough is enough" but acknowledging no wrongdoing. The move began the cyclist's swift fall from his spot as cancer-fighting sports hero in the public eye. And though he maintains he was victimized by a "witch hunt," Armstrong still was stripped of all seven of his Tour de France victories.

"We must create a culture in which people are not afraid to speak up, management is not compartmentalized, all are expected to demonstrate the highest ethical standards, and the operating policy is open, collegial and collaborative," Penn State President Rodney Erickson said the day the NCAA levied massive sanctions against the Nittany Lions including a four year postseason ban.

Erickson was speaking of his own school.

But in 2012, at least some of those lessons could have applied to any number of topics.

Sure, there were amazing moments to remember and savor. Michael Phelps became the most decorated Olympian in history, adding to his enormous swimming haul with six more medals at the London Games, where the United States topped the winning charts once again. Usain Bolt became the first man to win the 100- and 200-meter dashes at consecutive Olympics, Eli Manning and the New York Giants reigned supreme in the NFL, San Francisco stormed its way to the World Series title, the Los Angeles Kings hoisted the Stanley Cup (no telling if any other team will anytime soon) and LeBron James and the Miami Heat silenced doubters by winning the NBA title.

Yet in a year like this, such times of achievement and triumph seemed few and far between.

Take March 21, for example. That was the day when Tim Tebow was traded by Denver to the New York Jets, a huge story simply for the Tebowmania factor — and one that wasn't even the biggest in the NFL that day, not with the announcement that New Orleans Saints coach Sean Payton would serve a yearlong suspension for his role in the bounty scandal.

Try August 15, when baseball got to experience a rarity — Felix Hernandez pitching the first perfect game in Seattle Mariners' history — and an all-too-common occurrence, that being someone testing positive for something, in this case San Francisco's Melky Cabrera basically forfeiting any shot at the MVP or the NL batting title by being suspended 50 games following a positive test for testosterone.

In this July 24, 2005 file photo, Lance Armstrong, of Austin, Texas, carries the United States flag during a victory parade on the Champs Elysees avenue in Paris, after winning his seventh straight Tour de France cycling race. In 2012, Armstrong decided to give up the battle against doping charges, saying "enough is enough" but acknowledging no wrongdoing. The move began his swift fall from being perhaps the nation's best-known cancer-fighting hero, and though he maintains he was victimized by a "witch hunt" he was still stripped of all seven of his Tour de France victories. (AP Photo)

Or Oct. 10, when Raul Ibanez showed off a flair for the dramatic — twice — by hitting tying and winning home runs as the New York Yankees beat the Baltimore Orioles 3-2 to take a 2-1 lead in the AL Division Series, an enormous moment by any measure. Of course, those blasts came on the same day that the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency released a report in which Armstrong was portrayed as the lead of the "most professionalized and successful doping program that sport has ever seen."

As stunning as Armstrong's fall was, what went on at Penn State continued to dominate the sports lexicon.

Sandusky was arrested in November 2011, but resolution didn't really begin until 2012 — part of why the case was voted the top sports story of the year by The Associated Press, based on balloting by U.S. editors and news directors.

The longtime Penn State defensive coordinator was convicted of 45 counts of abuse involving 10 boys, and later sentenced to 30 to 60 years in prison, which means Sandusky is likely to die behind bars.

Paterno succumbed to lung cancer in January, and a statue of his likeness outside Beaver Stadium was removed six months later, one day before the NCAA announced a $60 million fine and four years of scholarship reductions. Still to come: civil suits brought by Sandusky's victims and the trials of former school administrators accused of neglecting their duty to report allegations.

"We can expect more fallout," Erickson said.

Paterno is still considered by many as a sympathetic figure, and still revered as a role model by some.

Clemens' legacy doesn't seem to resonate the same way with sports fans. It's almost like his courtroom win was one that many did not expect to see happen, and it may be his last big victory for a while. Clemens — the only seven-time Cy Young Award winner — is on the Hall of Fame ballot for the first time this year, and a recent survey of voters by the AP shows that he is likely to fall well short of the number of votes necessary for induction in 2013.

Clemens was accused by former personal trainer Brian McNamee in the Mitchell Report on drugs in baseball of using steroids and HGH, allegations Clemens denied before Congress. Eventually, after a Justice Department investigation looked into whether Clemens lied under oath, a grand jury indicted him on two counts of perjury, three counts of making false statements and one count of obstructing Congress.

He was acquitted of all the charges on June 19 after a 10-week trial.

"I'm very thankful," Clemens said.

"It's been a hard five years."

Armstrong's fight lasted even longer than that.

The testicular-cancer survivor won the Tour de France seven times, all while dogged by the stigma of he-must-be-cheating. Armstrong was never caught by a drug test, but rather was ultimately done in largely by the words of his former teammates. Armstrong continues to deny doping, but simply said his fight had gone on long enough.

Giving up has come with a price. Armstrong cut ties to his well-known charity, Livestrong, and longtime sponsor Nike — among other corporations — cut ties with him.

And as for Summitt, one of the greatest names in coaching, her last loss was against an invisible opponent.

Summitt stepped down as Tennessee's coach in April, a few months after revealing she has been diagnosed with early onset dementia.

Summitt led Tennessee to eight national titles in her 38-year tenure, winning 1,098 Division I games along the way.

"It's never a good time," Summitt said. "But you have to find the time that you think is the right time and that is now."

Still, the year wasn't gloom and doom for everyone, not by a long shot.

Alabama got a chance to avenge a loss to LSU and win college football's national championship, the second for the Tide in three years.

The Tide will be back in the BCS title game again in January, against rising and surprising Notre Dame.

Miguel Cabrera of the Detroit Tigers became baseball's first Triple Crown winner in 45 years.

The Kings put together a stunning run through the Stanley Cup playoffs, the last celebratory moment the NHL got to enjoy before more labor strife led to a lockout. Baylor went 40-0 for the NCAA women's basketball title, while Kentucky returned to the top of the men's game.

And the Giants (New York) and Giants (San Francisco) more than lived up to their names, in championship fashion.

But if there was one happy ending among all those the drawn-out sagas of this sports year, it was the year James had with the Heat.

Miami won the NBA title, beating Oklahoma City in five games for the franchise's second title and the first for James, who left Cleveland for the Heat two years earlier for moments such as that. He won the league's MVP award. He won the NBA Finals MVP award. He even helped the Americans win another basketball gold medal at the London Olympics.

After all he went through — from hero to villain, revered to pariah for his infamous "Decision" — James found a way to shake it all off and complete his quest.

"It's a year I know I'm never going to forget," James said.

Not many people will.

Thing is, in so many cases in 2012, it isn't for the right reasons.

AROUND THE HORN

A roundup of sports in the region and across the nation

Send your sports briefs to snsports@salemnews.net

Former Texas Rangers owner Brad Corbett dies at 75

HOUSTON (AP) — Brad Corbett, who owned the Texas Rangers from 1974 to 1980 and wasn't afraid to regularly switch out managers, died on Christmas Eve. He was 75.

Corbett's daughter, Pamela Corbett Murrin, told The Associated Press that her father died peacefully in his sleep on Monday. She said he had not been sick recently.

"The Texas Rangers are saddened to hear of the death of Brad Corbett," the team said in a statement. "His tenure as owner was marked by a passion and drive to bring a winning team to the fans of North Texas."

At Corbett's helm, the team had six managers in six years — four in the 1977 season alone. An article on the Rangers' website also said the team had its first four winning seasons under Corbett and finished second in the AL West three times. The 94 victories in 1977 remained the most in team history until 1999, it said.

"The spirit in which Mr. Corbett served as owner of the Rangers will be remembered always," the team statement said.

Corbett was directly involved in decision-making, including player transactions. Corbett traded away three future Hall of Fame pitchers — Ferguson Jenkins, Gaylord Perry and Bert Blyleven — during his tenure.

Corbett made his money in the plastics business, turning a $300,000 loan from the Small Business Administration into a multimillion dollar company that sold plastic pipes for industrial use.

Just three seasons after the Rangers had moved from Washington, D.C., Corbett bought the team from Bob Short. He sold the team to Fort Worth oil man Eddie Chiles in 1980, when both the Rangers and Corbett's other ventures were struggling financially.

Ex-NFL GM: Michigan's Denard Robinson could be CB

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (AP) — Denard Robinson's position is a secret for the final game of his college career.

It perhaps provides a preview of his unclear future in football.

The three-year starting quarterback might not throw for No. 19 Michigan against No. 11 South Carolina on New Year's Day at the Outback Bowl. He probably will catch some passes, lining up as a running back or receiver.

Robinson hopes showing that he can make plays without taking snaps will help NFL teams see what he can do.

"If you're making plays on the field, you can't hide that," Robinson said earlier this month before the Wolverines traveled to Florida. "You can't hide a playmaker."

Some project Robinson as a receiver in the pros.

NFL draft consultant and former Dallas Cowboys general manager Gil Brandt has another idea.

"I'd draft him to be a cornerback," Brandt said. "A quarterback never wants to be told he's going to have to play another position, but I don't think he can play quarterback in the NFL. I do know teams are always looking for cornerbacks, and I think Robinson could do it because of his quickness and speed.

"But he'd have to want to do it to make it work."

Robinson has declined to say much about what position he wants to attempt to play at the next level, saying he just wants to enjoy his senior season.

Nerve damage in his right elbow knocked him off the field Oct. 27 at Nebraska, keeping him out for the next two games and limiting his ability to throw in the final two games of the regular season.

Michigan moved him to running back and also had him take snaps without throwing a pass against Iowa and Ohio State, games in which he had 23 carries for 220 yards and a score and two receptions for 24 yards.

The Gamecocks are preparing for Robinson to play up to his spectacular potential.

ed as Tate Forcier's backup when they both were freshmen, he has thrown for 6,250 and 49 TDs and run for 4,395 and 42 scores. He had a school-record 502 yards of offense at Notre Dame two years ago in his breakout performance and has 10 of the top 11 games in terms of total offense for college football's winningest team.

Bengals get Sanzenbacher on waivers from Bears

CINCINNATI (AP) — The Cincinnati Bengals have acquired wide receiver Dane Sanzenbacher on waivers from the Chicago Bears and placed first-round draft pick Dre Kirkpatrick on injured reserve.

Sanzenbacher was released this week by the Bears and was picked up Tuesday by the Bengals. He played in five games with one catch for 7 yards this season.

Kirkpatrick, the 17th overall selection in the 2012 draft, has been sidelined with a knee injury. He played in five games this season, with two tackles on defense and two on special teams.

Turner downplays expected last week as Bolts coach

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Norv Turner's tenure as coach of the Washington Redskins ended just shy of seven full seasons when he was fired with three games left in the 2000 season.

The Oakland Raiders gave him the heave-ho after he coached them from 2004-05.

So maybe that's why Turner says he hasn't given much thought to what's expected to be his last week as coach of the San Diego Chargers.

Turner is expected to get fired as soon as the season's over because the Chargers will miss the playoffs for the third straight year.

General manager A.J. Smith, who's let the roster disintegrate from one that had been packed with Pro Bowlers to one that gets pushed around a lot, is expected to get the boot along with Turner. "I'm not really giving it a lot of thought," Turner said Monday, a day after the Chargers beat a team even more dysfunctional than they are, the New York Jets, 27-17. "Obviously there's a lot of speculation that way and I know people assume that. As I said to our team, probably four or five weeks ago, this is really an outstanding group of people, aside from what they are as football players. I enjoy being around these guys a great deal. I think they enjoy each other. I think that's why they've stayed together and continue to play hard and prepare at the level they have.

"I'm going to enjoy the week in terms of we come back in Wednesday morning and start preparing," Turner said. "Obviously we're playing a divisional rival. You're playing the Raiders, so we're just getting everything we can out of this week, enjoy each other, then we'll see what happens."

Turner was Smith's signature hire after the authoritarian GM won a power struggle with old-school coach Marty Schottenheimer following the 2006 season.

NFL GLANCE

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-New England	11	4	0	.733	529	331
Miami	7	8	0	.467	288	289
N.Y. Jets	6	9	0	.400	272	347
Buffalo	5	10	0	.333	316	426

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Houston	12	3	0	.800	400	303
x-Indianapolis	10	5	0	.667	329	371
Tennessee	5	10	0	.333	292	451
Jacksonville	2	13	0	.133	235	406

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Baltimore	10	5	0	.667	381	321
x-Cincinnati	9	6	0	.600	368	303
Pittsburgh	7	8	0	.467	312	304
Cleveland	5	10	0	.333	292	344

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Denver	12	3	0	.800	443	286
San Diego	6	9	0	.400	326	329
Oakland	4	11	0	.267	269	419
Kansas City	2	13	0	.133	208	387

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Washington	9	6	0	.600	408	370
Dallas	8	7	0	.533	358	372
N.Y. Giants	8	7	0	.533	387	337
Philadelphia	4	11	0	.267	273	402

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Atlanta	13	2	0	.867	402	277
New Orleans	7	8	0	.467	423	410
Tampa Bay	6	9	0	.400	367	377
Carolina	6	9	0	.400	313	325

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Green Bay	11	4	0	.733	399	299
Minnesota	9	6	0	.600	342	314
Chicago	9	6	0	.600	349	253
Detroit	4	11	0	.267	348	411

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-San Francisco	10	4	1	.700	370	260
Seattle	10	5	0	.667	392	232
St. Louis	7	7	1	.500	286	328
Arizona	5	10	0	.333	237	330

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division

Saturday's Game

Atlanta 31, Detroit 18

Sunday's Games

Green Bay 55, Tennessee 7
Indianapolis 20, Kansas City 13
New Orleans 34, Dallas 31, OT
Minnesota 23, Houston 6
Carolina 17, Oakland 6
Miami 24, Buffalo 10
Cincinnati 13, Pittsburgh 10
New England 23, Jacksonville 16
Washington 27, Philadelphia 20
St. Louis 28, Tampa Bay 13
San Diego 27, N.Y. Jets 17
Denver 34, Cleveland 12
Chicago 28, Arizona 13
Baltimore 33, N.Y. Giants 14
Seattle 42, San Francisco 13

Sunday, Dec. 30

Jacksonville at Tennessee, 1 p.m.
Carolina at New Orleans, 1 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
Baltimore at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
Cleveland at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.
Houston at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.
Philadelphia at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m.
Chicago at Detroit, 1 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Atlanta, 1 p.m.
Oakland at San Diego, 4:25 p.m.
Arizona at San Francisco, 4:25 p.m.
St. Louis at Seattle, 4:25 p.m.
Kansas City at Denver, 4:25 p.m.
Green Bay at Minnesota, 4:25 p.m.
Miami at New England, 4:25 p.m.
Dallas at Washington, 8:20 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

National Football League

ATLANTA FALCONS — Placed WR Kevin Cone on injured reserve.
BALTIMORE RAVENS — Signed LB D.J. Bryant to the practice squad.
CINCINNATI BENGALS — Placed CB Dre Kirkpatrick on injured reserve. Claimed WR Dane Sanzenbacher off waivers from Chicago.
JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS — Placed RB Rashad Jennings, LB Greg K. Jones, G Mark Asper and WR Cecil Shorts on injured reserve. Claimed G Mark Asper and TE Allen Reisner off waivers from Minnesota. Signed WR Jerrell Jackson from the practice squad.
PHILADELPHIA EAGLES — Signed LB Marcus Dowtin to the practice squad.

this Sunday
How Al Roker Lost 135 Pounds and Gained Faith in Himself
In his new book, *Never Goin' Back: Winning the Weight-Loss Battle for Good*, the *Today* show's Al Roker opens up about his lifetime struggle with weight and how he finally broke the yo-yo cycle—for good.
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PGA NOTEBOOK

Na Yeon Choi excels on the course and in English

Na Yeon Choi won her first major at the U.S. Women's Open, and she closed the season by winning the LPGA Titleholders.

But her most remarkable performance came when the season was over.

Players for whom English is their second (or third) language can get by in an interview with print reporters. They tend be a lot more uncomfortable when cameras are involved. Choi showed how much progress she has made the day after winning the Titleholders. She went into the studio for a live segment on Golf Channel's "Morning Drive."

The LPGA staff helped her prepare for questions that might be asked, and when it didn't go according to script, Choi still handled it beautifully.

That wasn't an accident.

As hard as Choi has worked on her game, she might have worked even harder on her English. Last year, she hired a personal tutor — Greg Morrison, a Canadian based in South Korea — and brought him with her on the road. She had a one-hour lesson every day, and practiced her English with him in casual conversation.

Se Ri Pak would have been proud. The pioneer for South Koreans on the LPGA Tour, Pak preached years ago about the importance of learning English. Along with fitting in, Pak said it would make them feel more comfortable in public and ultimately improve their golf.

"First year when I was here, I couldn't speak English well and then very hard to tell my feelings to people, even media or fans or even swing coach," Choi said. "When I learned English and when I tell my feelings to people, I feel way more comfortable than before. I think that made it good golfer, too. And on the golf course, I can relax and I can talk with the other players."

Morrison couldn't travel with her this year, though they still practiced through Skype. She had another one-hour lesson during the Titleholders and planned to meet with him again while she was home during the offseason. "We talk about not only golf, we talk about anything," Choi said. "Like, I said I'm going to look for a new house and he tried to help me with which house is better for me. He's more like, not just English tutor, he's more like manager or assistant to me."

Do they ever talk baseball?

"Not really," she said. "I think he's a hockey fan."

ANKING TOURS: Most of the world's best players are going to the Middle East in the winter and the Far East in the fall, both part of the European Tour.

But over the course of the year, the PGA Tour is where biggest offering of world ranking points can be found.

Throw out the four majors and the four World Golf Championships, and the PGA Tour averaged 46.7 points for the winner of its tournaments, compared with 34.9 points for the winner of regular European Tour events.

Add the majors and the WGCs, and the winner received an average of 54.3 points on the PGA Tour and 44.6 points on the European Tour.

The BMW PGA Championship at Wentworth is guaranteed 64 points as the flagship even on the European Tour. After that, the strongest fields on the European Tour (based on points awarded the winner) were Abu Dhabi and the season-ending event in Dubai (58 points), and the BMW Masters in Shanghai (56).

The Players Championship gets 80 points as the PGA Tour's flagship event. That was followed by The Barclays and Deutsche Bank Championship (74), the BMW Championship (70), Memorial (68), and the Northern Trust Open and Tour Championship (62).

Along with attracting the best from all over the world — the top 28 players in the world are PGA Tour members — it is helped immensely in the ranking by the FedEx Cup playoffs. Those events are nearly as strong as WGCs.

An argument could be made that The Barclays features the strongest field of any PGA Tour event, including The Players Championship. It might not have as many players from the top 50 or top 100 in the world ranking, but it has the top 125 players based on current form. Take a bow, Nick Watney.

TIME TO RECHARGE: Before winning his final event of the year at Sherwood, Graeme McDowell talked all week about how badly he was in need of a 10-week break.

He feels he made a mistake by playing the first FedEx Cup playoff event, and that he was out of gas even in the high-charged atmosphere of the Ryder Cup. And that concerned him. He says he played so much this year that he lost an estimated 10 percent of what he calls his "buzziness."

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GOLF RECAP

PGA Tour 2012 winners
The Associated Press

Jan. 6-9 — Hyundai Tournament of Champions (Steve Stricker)
Jan. 12-15 — Sony Open (Johnson Wagner)
Jan. 19-22 — Humana Challenge (Mark Wilson)
Jan. 22-29 — Farmers Insurance Open (Brant Snedeker)
Feb. 2-5 — Waste Management Phoenix Open (Kyle Stanley)
Feb. 9-12 — AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am (Phil Mickelson)
Feb. 16-19 — Northern Trust Open (Bill Haas)
Feb. 22-26 — WGC-Accenture Match Play Championship (Hunter Mahan)
Feb. 23-26 — Mayakoba Golf Classic (John Huh)
March 1-4 — Honda Classic (Rory McIlroy)
March 8-11 — WGC-Cadillac Championship (Justin Rose)
March 8-11 — Puerto Rico Open (George McNeill)
March 15-18 — Transitions Championship (Luke Donald)
March 22-25 — Arnold Palmer Invitational (Tiger Woods)
March 29-April 1 — Shell Houston Open (Hunter Mahan)
April 5-8 — Masters Tournament (Bubba Watson)
April 12-15 — RBC Heritage (Carl Pettersson)
April 19-22 — Valero Texas Open (Ben Curtis)
April 26-29 — Zurich Classic (Jason Dufner)
May 3-6 — Wells Fargo Championship (Rickie Fowler)
May 10-13 — The Players Championship (Matt Kuchar)
May 17-20 — HP Byron Nelson Championship (Jason Dufner)
May 24-27 — Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial (Zach Johnson)
May 31-June 3— Memorial Tournament (Tiger Woods)
June 7-10 — FedEx St. Jude Classic (Dustin Johnson)
June 14-17 — U.S. Open (Webb Simpson)
June 21-24 — Travelers Championship (Mark Leishman)
June 28-July 1 — AT&T National (Tiger Woods)
July 5-8 — The Greenbrier Classic (Ted Potter Jr.)
July 12-15 — John Deere Classic (Zach Johnson)
July 19-22 — The Open Championship (Ernie Els)
July 19-22 — True South Classic (Scott Stallings)
July 26-29 — RBC Canadian Open (Scott Piercy)
Aug. 2-5 — WGC-Bridgestone Invitational (Keegan Bradley)
Aug. 2-5 — Reno-Tahoe Open (J.J. Henry)
Aug. 9-12 — PGA Championship (Rory McIlroy)
Aug. 16-19 — Wyndham Championship (Sergio Garcia)
Aug. 23-26 — The Barclays (Nick Watney)
Aug. 31-Sept. 3 — Deutsche Bank Championship (Rory McIlroy)
Sept. 6-9 — BMW Championship (Rory McIlroy)
Sept. 20-23 — Tour Championship (Brandt Snedeker)
Sept. 28-30 — The Ryder Cup (Europe)
Oct. 4-7 — Justin Timberlake Shriners Hospital for Children Open (Ryan Moore)
Oct. 11-14 — Frys.com Open (Jonas Blixt)
Oct. 18-21 — The McGladrey Classic (Tommy Gainey)
Oct. 25-28 — CIMB Asia Pacific Classic (Nick Watney)

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NBA GLANCE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	20	8	.714	—
Brooklyn	14	13	.519	5 1/2
Boston	14	13	.519	5 1/2
Philadelphia	13	15	.464	7
Toronto	9	19	.321	11

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	19	6	.760	—
Atlanta	16	9	.640	3
Orlando	12	15	.444	8
Charlotte	7	20	.259	13
Washington	3	22	.120	16

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	16	12	.571	—
Chicago	15	12	.556	1/2
Milwaukee	14	12	.538	1
Detroit	9	21	.300	8
Cleveland	6	23	.207	10 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	21	8	.724	—
Memphis	18	7	.720	1
Houston	15	12	.556	5
Dallas	12	16	.429	8 1/2
New Orleans	5	22	.185	15

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oklahoma City	21	6	.778	—
Denver	15	13	.536	6 1/2
Minnesota	13	12	.520	7
Utah	15	14	.517	7
Portland	13	13	.500	7 1/2

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Clippers	21	6	.778	—
Golden State	18	10	.643	3 1/2
L.A. Lakers	14	14	.500	7 1/2
Phoenix	11	17	.393	10 1/2
Sacramento	9	18	.333	12

Monday's Games

No games scheduled

Tuesday's Games

Boston 93, Brooklyn 76
L.A. Lakers 100, New York 94
Miami 103, Oklahoma City 97
Houston 120, Chicago 97
Denver at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

Wednesday's Games

Miami at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Chicago at Indiana, 7 p.m.
New Orleans at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Cleveland at Washington, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Houston at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Philadelphia at Memphis, 8 p.m.
Brooklyn at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Toronto at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Denver, 9 p.m.
New York at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Golden State at Utah, 9 p.m.
Sacramento at Portland, 10 p.m.

Thursday's Games

Dallas at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Boston at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

NCAA MENS BB

All Times EST

Wednesday, Dec. 26

No games scheduled

Thursday, Dec. 27

EAST

Alcorn St. at Canisius, 7 p.m.

SOUTH

FAU at Troy, 8 p.m.
FIU at W. Kentucky, 8 p.m.

MIDWEST

Texas Southern at Akron, 7 p.m.
IPFW at IUPUI, 7 p.m.
Oakland at W. Illinois, 8 p.m.
New Mexico at Cincinnati, 9 p.m.

SOUTHWEST

Louisiana-Lafayette at Arkansas St., 8:05 p.m.

FAR WEST

N. Arizona at BYU, 9 p.m.
Morgan St. at Loyola Marymount, 10 p.m.
Rhode Island at Saint Mary's (Cal), 10 p.m.

BOWL GLANCE

Subject to Change
All Times EST

Saturday, Dec. 15

New Mexico Bowl
At Albuquerque
Arizona 49, Nevada 48

Famous Idaho Potato Bowl
At Boise, Idaho
Utah State 41, Toledo 15

Thursday, Dec. 20

Poinsettia Bowl
At San Diego
BYU 23, San Diego State 6

Friday, Dec. 21

Beef 'O' Brady's Bowl
At St. Petersburg, Fla.
UCF 38, Ball State 17

Saturday, Dec. 22

New Orleans Bowl
Louisiana-Lafayette 43, East Carolina 34

MAACO Bowl
Las Vegas
Boise State 28, Washington 26

Monday, Dec. 24

Hawaii Bowl
At Honolulu
SMU 43, Fresno State 10

Wednesday, Dec. 26

Little Caesars Pizza Bowl
At Detroit
Central Michigan (6-6) vs. Western Kentucky (7-5), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Thursday, Dec. 27

Military Bowl
At Washington
Bowling Green (8-4) vs. San Jose State (10-2), 3 p.m. (ESPN)

Belk Bowl
At Charlotte, N.C.
Duke (6-6) vs. Cincinnati (9-3), 6:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Holiday Bowl
At San Diego
Baylor (7-5) vs. UCLA (9-4), 9:45 p.m. (ESPN)

Friday, Dec. 28

Independence Bowl
At Shreveport, La.
Louisiana-Monroe (8-4) vs. Ohio (8-4), 2 p.m. (ESPN)

Russell Athletic Bowl
At Orlando, Fla.
Virginia Tech (6-6) vs. Rutgers (9-3), 5:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Meineke Car Care Bowl
At Houston
Minnesota (6-6) vs. Texas Tech (7-5), 9 p.m. (ESPN)

Saturday, Dec. 29

Armed Forces Bowl
At Fort Worth, Texas
Rice (6-6) vs. Air Force (6-6), 11:45 a.m. (ESPN)

Fight Hunger Bowl
At San Francisco
Arizona State (7-5) vs. Navy (8-4), 4 p.m. (ESPN2)

Pinstripe Bowl
At New York
Syracuse (7-5) vs. West Virginia (7-5), 3:15 p.m. (ESPN)

Alamo Bowl
At San Antonio
Texas (8-4) vs. Orgeon State (9-3), 6:45 p.m. (ESPN)

Buffalo Wild Wings Bowl
At Tempe, Ariz.
Michigan State (6-6) vs. TCU (7-5), 10:15 p.m. (ESPN)

Monday, Dec. 31

Music City Bowl
At Nashville, Tenn.
Vanderbilt (8-4) vs. N.C. State (7-5), Noon (ESPN)

Sun Bowl
At El Paso, Texas
Georgia Tech (6-7) vs. Southern Cal (7-5), 2 p.m. (CBS)

Liberty Bowl
At Memphis, Tenn.
Iowa State (6-6) vs. Tulsa (10-3), 3:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Chick-fil-A Bowl
At Atlanta
LSU (10-2) vs. Clemson (10-2), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Tuesday, Jan. 1

Heart of Dallas Bowl
At Dallas
Purdue (6-6) vs. Oklahoma State (7-5), Noon (ESPNU)

Gator Bowl
At Jacksonville, Fla.
Mississippi State (8-4) vs. Northwestern (9-3), Noon (ESPN2)

Capital One Bowl
At Orlando, Fla.
Georgia (11-2) vs. Nebraska (10-3), 1 p.m. (ABC)

Outback Bowl
At Tampa, Fla.
South Carolina (10-2) vs. Michigan (8-4), 1 p.m. (ESPN)

Rose Bowl
At Pasadena, Calif.
Stanford (11-2) vs. Wisconsin (8-5), 5 p.m. (ESPN)

Orange Bowl
At Miami
Northern Illinois (12-1) vs. Florida State (11-2), 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Wednesday, Jan. 2

Sugar Bowl
At New Orleans
Florida (11-1) vs. Louisville (10-2), 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Thursday, Jan. 3

Fiesta Bowl
At Glendale, Ariz.
Kansas State (11-1) vs. Oregon (11-1), 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Friday, Jan. 4

Cotton Bowl
At Arlington, Texas
Texas A&M (10-2) vs. Oklahoma (10-2), 8 p.m. (FOX)

Saturday, Jan. 5

BBVA Compass Bowl
At Birmingham, Ala.
Pittsburgh (6-6) vs. Mississippi (6-6), 1 p.m. (ESPN)

Sunday, Jan. 6

GoDaddy.com Bowl
At Mobile, Ala.
Kent State (11-2) vs. Arkansas State (9-3), 9 p.m. (ESPN)

Monday, Jan. 7

BCS National Championship
At Miami
Notre Dame (12-0) vs. Alabama (12-1), 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Saturday, Jan. 19

RAYCOM College Football All-Star Classic
At Montgomery, Ala.
Stars vs. Stripes, 3 p.m. (CBSSN)

East-West Shrine Classic
At St. Petersburg, Fla.
East vs. West, 4 p.m. (NFLN)

Saturday, Jan. 26

Senior Bowl
At Mobile, Ala.
North vs. South, TBA (NFLN)

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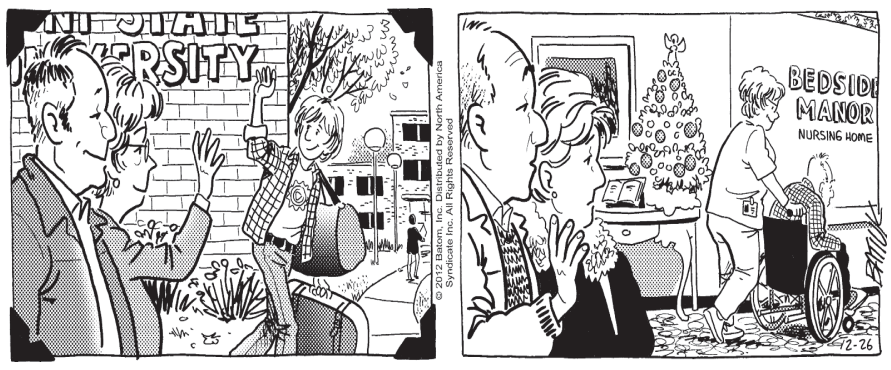
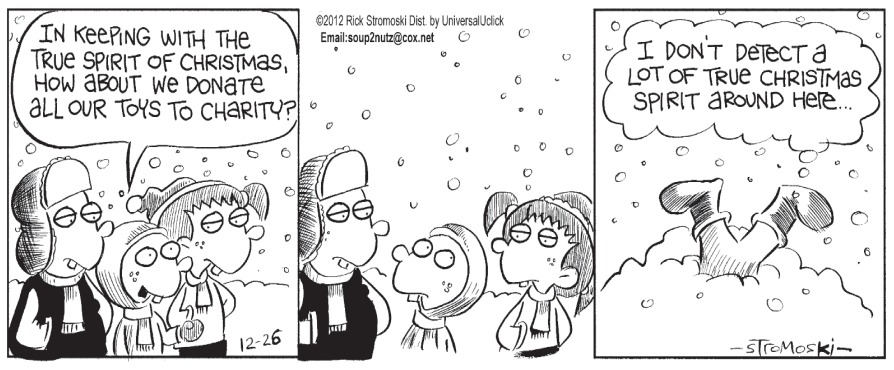
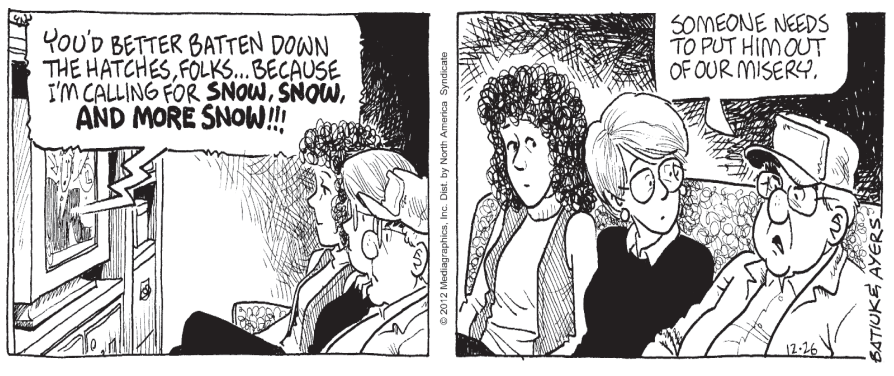


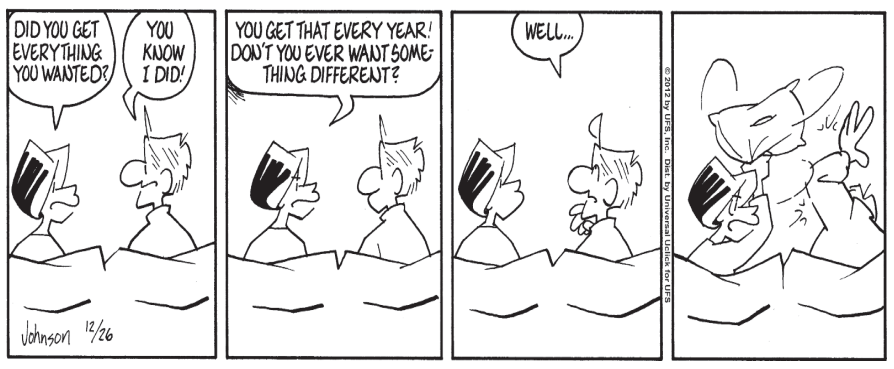
SOUP TO NUTS



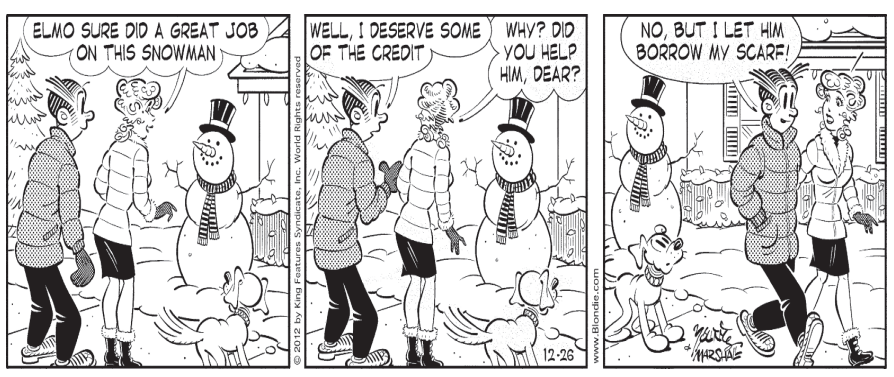
CRANKSHAFT



ARLO AND JANIS

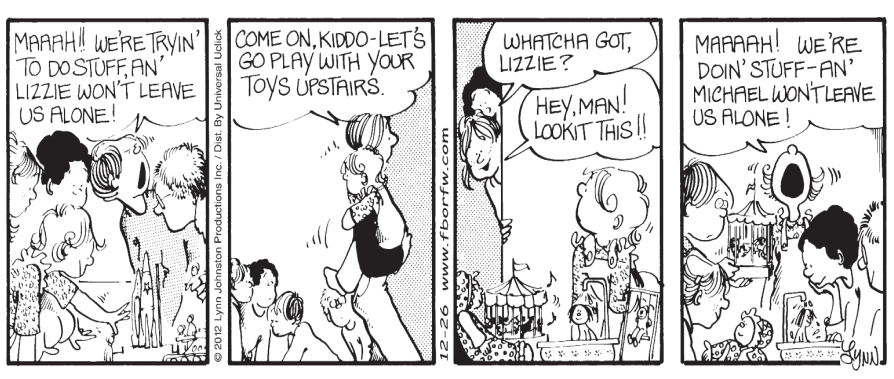


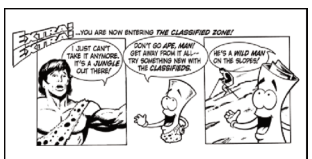
BLONDIE



BORN LOSER

FOR BETTER OR WORSE

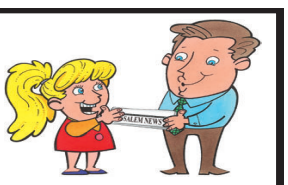




To advertise in the comics section, call your Advertising Representative Today

Salem News

330-332-4601



Share Your Business With The World! Sharing Is Easy When You Put Your Ad In The Comic Section! Call Your Sales Rep Today. (330) 332-4601

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Party tray cheese
5 Subject matter
10 Hockey venues
12 Relax after a hard day
13 Phoned (2 wds.)
14 Horses
15 — fixe
16 Promissory note
18 Help with the dishes
19 Like skim milk
22 Army doc
25 Plane trip
29 — box
30 Turf grabber
32 Las Vegas show
33 Cause-and-effect law
34 Curl up cozily
37 Mount gems
38 Takes care of (2 wds.)
40 Dog days mo.
43 Just scrape by
44 Irritate
48 Shooting star
50 "Will it play in —?"
52 General drifts
53 Hooky player
54 Bottle- — dolphin
55 Sec'y

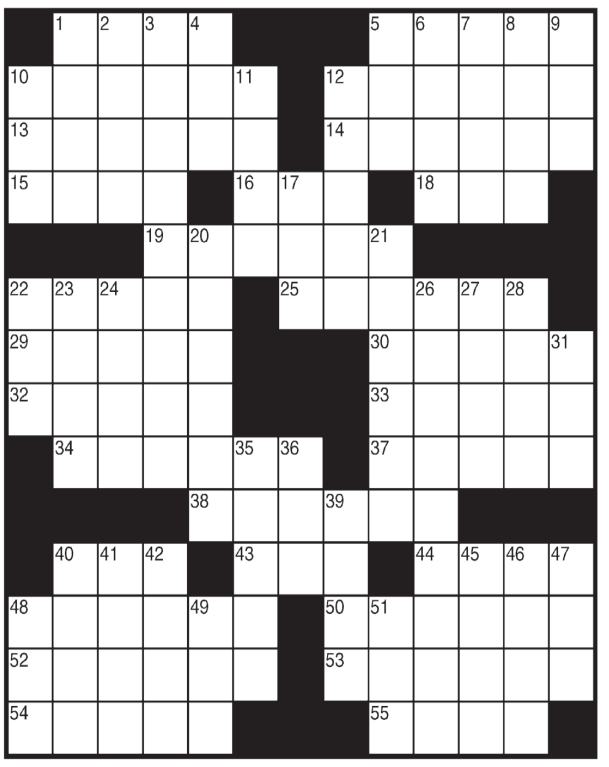
DOWN

1 Carpet nail
2 Descartes' name
3 Very clever
4 — de cologne
5 Explosive letters
6 Felt grateful
7 Landing place
8 — 500
9 Bank offerings
10 Onassis nickname
11 Washer cycle
12 Ordinary
17 Slightly gamy
20 Choral ensembles
21 Box office purchase
22 Cosmonaut's lab
23 Blissful abode
24 Cheap bar
26 Like furs and diamonds
27 Dagwood's neighbor
28 Domesticated
31 Small fry
35 Lascivious looks
36 Cartoon shriek
39 Equinox mo.
40 Space lead-in
41 Sporty trucks
42 It may be spliced
45 Glass and Gershwin
46 Dust bunny
47 Have supper
48 Atlas abbr.
49 Peculiar
51 Pitcher's stat

Answer to Previous Puzzle

H	E	L	M		B	A	M		J	A	V	A
A	R	I	A		O	R	E		U	N	I	T
D	R	E	S	S	I	N	G		B	O	A	T
			A	O	L		A	V	I	D	L	Y
T	I	M	I	D				O	L	E	S	
O	R	A		A	L	P	I	N	E			
O	K	L	A		U	R	N		E	R	M	A
T	S	A	R		L	O	G		S	E	A	M
			M	I	L	D	E	W		B	R	A
	Y	O	Y	O				R	E	A	C	H
P	A	L	A	C	E		O	I	L			
S	H	I	N		G	I	F	T	W	R	A	P
S	O	O	T		A	S	I		A	U	R	A
T	O	S	S		N	U	T		Y	E	C	H

Want more puzzles?
Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com



12-26

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JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RIKEH

DOORE

OVDECI

ALODDE

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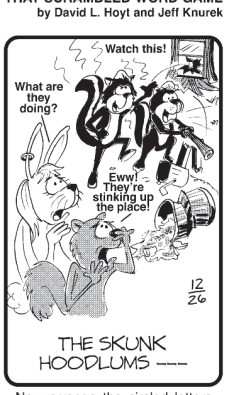
Find us on Facebook http://www.facebook.com/jumble



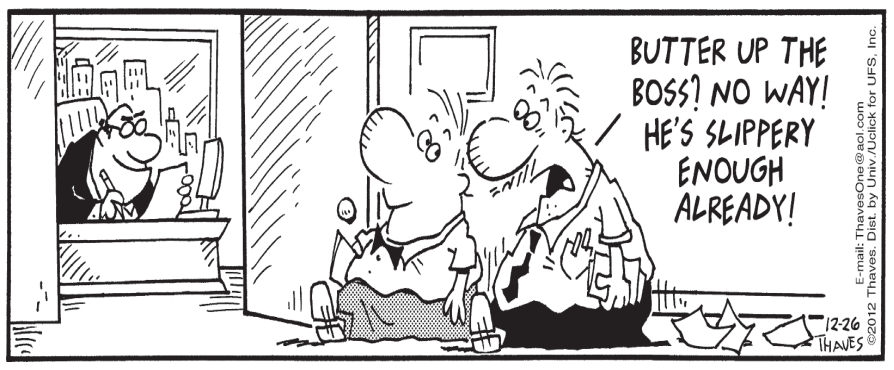
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

A: " " " "

(Answers tomorrow)

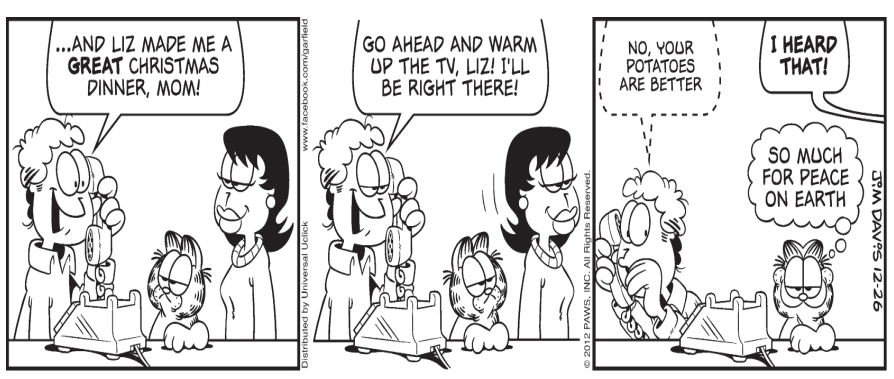
Yesterday's Jumbles: FACET EXCEL DIVERT BITTEN
Answer: What does December have that no other month has? — THE LETTER "D"

FRANK AND EARNEST



DILBERT

GARFIELD



GIL THORPE

HI AND LOIS

BABYBLUES

HOROSCOPE

By HOLIDAY MATHIS
12/26/12
Boxing Day Stars

A sextile of Saturn and Pluto brings home the major themes of this Boxing Day, a day when bosses serve employees and when those who have give to those who have not. Though the standards of living have vastly improved since the Middle Ages when this tradition started, the needy are still among us. Mars in Aquarius urges your generosity.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Information is more readily available now than it ever has been in any other time period. But wisdom can't be Googled. It has to be legitimately earned, which is how you'll come by it today.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Today highlights the difference between caution and fear. This can be a very slight and personal difference that each individual must detect for him or herself.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You prefer the company of people who let you finish the sentences you start, but that's not always the case. You'll be exposed to a wide variety of people, and you may have to assert yourself in order to hold your own.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Just because you're not talking to someone at the moment doesn't mean you've lost the connection. Silence and space between people who share a strong affinity often signifies a strong bond, not a deficit.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll experience a merging of languages: the language of the senses, the language of emotions, the language of thoughts. You'll create beauty by interpreting and interweaving many ways of communicating.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). When you spend time with people, you are also spending time with the remnants of their history, especially the childhood parts involving their family system. Knowing this, you should try not to take any of it too seriously.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll rally for justice in a situation that hasn't exactly been fair for a long time. Progress may be slow, but slow is better than letting everything stay stuck. Your work won't be in vain.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're often more comfortable one-on-one than in a group, and today's circumstances will prove it. You'll expertly read someone's body language and be most influential as a result.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'll bring spontaneity to a group scenario, and those who follow your lead are sure to have a good time. But there's also something tangible you hope to accomplish.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). This will be a surprisingly productive day. Stress can be highly motivating. You'll take the tension you feel and pour it into an activity that requires a heightened energy level to complete.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). When the timing is right, you will hit the jackpot you want. But for now, look around at the jackpot you already have. It's pretty great. The more you appreciate it the better you feel.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll find a wonderful bit of decadence set aside just for you, but indulge with caution. Like a rich dessert, the first few bites are the best. Go too far, and a heavy feeling sets in, followed by regret.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 26). The year starts in a swirl of mystery and excitement. One relationship stands out, and strong emotions will change your experience of daily life. Then February brings a development that lends practical assistance to one of your plans. A bonus comes in August. An unforgettable journey starts in September. Aquarius and Libra people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 40, 1, 14, 34 and 16.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "My ex-wife has spent the past 15 years making my life miserable, and she continues to delight in my financial ruin. Even though my youngest daughter is 18, the legal age at which my child support ended, my ex-wife has found a loophole and continues to extract money from me. That will end, but how am I to reverse the bitterness she has poisoned my children with? I'm a Taurus who just wants the fight between me and a Scorpio ex to be over."

Taurus people sometimes have a hard time forgiving those who have wronged them, especially when the person in question has every intention of continuing the offense. Since you have no control over your Scorpio's bitterness, all you can do is let go of your own. The good news is that she is sensitive to such changes on a karmic level. So the work you do may be private — in your quiet prayers and in your heart — but she'll feel it and will have no choice but to react. She may surprise you by dropping her battle axe. Forgiveness can be the hardest thing to do, but it really is the only way.

Pumpkin pie recipe

Heloise

Dear Heloise: I read your column every day in the (Rochester, Minn.) Post-Bulletin. I know you printed a recipe for PUMPKIN PIE SPICE, but I lost it. Could you please reprint it? — **Anna F. in Minnesota**

This is a good recipe to have during the holidays, because it makes enough spice for one pumpkin pie. Feel free to double or triple it if making more than one pie. Gather the following ingredients:

1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/4 teaspoon ground ginger
1/8 teaspoon allspice
1/8 teaspoon nutmeg

Store the spice blend in a labeled container until ready to use. I like to make my own spice mixes at home, which is why I created my Heloise's Seasonings, Sauces and Substitutes pamphlet. To receive a copy, send $3 and a long, self-addressed, stamped (65 cents) envelope to: Heloise/SSS, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. Need just a touch of milk, but have none on hand? Mix some water and coffee creamer together. — **Heloise**

DRY MILK

Dear Heloise: I live alone and sometimes have a problem of wasting food due to having to purchase more than I need because of packaging. Cereal is the only thing I need low-fat milk for, but I can use only a cup or so out of a quart, with the rest going bad after a while. I got a small box of dry milk, and I make 1 cup, which is sufficient for the cereal. I don't know if all brands use the same ratio, but I use heaping 1/4 cup dry milk to 1 cup cold water and stir well! — **Dena in Silver Spring, Md.**

EASY POUR

Dear Heloise: I always liked the syrup dispenser with a spring-loaded lever found on the table at my favorite breakfast restaurant. I was so excited when I saw a couple for sale at a garage sale! I, of course, keep syrup in one, but I have milk in the other to add to my morning coffee! — **Betty G. in New Jersey**

I love these dispensers, too! I bought one in a thrift store, and I keep milk or creamer in it for my coffee, just like you do. It is so convenient! If you can't find one in a thrift store, garage sale or specialty kitchen store, go online to buy one. — **Heloise**

DRAINING SPINACH

Dear Heloise: I've found an easy and fast way to drain frozen spinach. I put a couple of layers of cheesecloth over the disc in my ricer, add the thawed spinach and press. The excess water drains into a bowl, and I'm left with dried spinach to add to my quiche recipe. — **Joyce in Vienna, W.Va.**

POP-OUT PATTIES

Dear Heloise: I use a muffin tin, coated with cooking spray, to form patties from my mix of hot and mild sausage. Two pounds of mix fill the 12 pockets. The tin goes in the freezer, and after a day, the patties pop out. — **R.G. in Ohio**

Wife has few choice words on sexy lips

DEAR ABBY: Please help save my marriage. My wife of five years discovered an Internet browser history of 13 Web pages I had clicked on the previous day. The pages were of women's sexy lips. My wife is calling it "porn" and a "gateway to porn." I feel guilty about it, but I told her it isn't pornography. I think it's a fetish. She says I'm using that word to get off the hook.

Will you please tell her that this probably is a fetish? Our sex life has not been the same since she discovered the images on the computer. What can we do about it in a way that will strengthen our marriage? — **NOT GUILTY AS CHARGED**

DEAR NOT GUILTY: It's a shame you and your wife hadn't discussed what turns you on before she checked your browser history. A fetish is any object that turns someone on, and it can range from large breasts, to stiletto heels, to leather or rubber items of clothing, to full red lips. It is NOT pornography.

A way to strengthen your marriage would be for you to buy her a tube of bright red lipstick. And a way for her to improve your sex life would be to put it on.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 13-year-old girl with a sister and a brother. I was recently told by my dad that I have to teach my brother how to read, but the problem is he has a learning disability and a behavior disorder. I don't know how I'm supposed to teach him to read, and it scares me.

On top of that, my dad got mad at my sister and me and said that when we were younger we were just like my brother, only worse. He said he was close to giving up on us. Sometimes Dad says we're worthless, stupid and asks why we're even in this world. He says we're not good for anything.

I have a slight form of autism, so I'm sort of slow doing certain things other kids do at my age. I feel like I'll never be as smart as anyone else, and I have no clue how I'm going to teach my disabled brother to read. Help! — **LOST, ALONE AND WORRIED IN URBANA, ILL.**

DEAR LOST: It would be wonderful if you could teach your learning disabled brother how to read, but you are not equipped to do that. Your brother should be in a special education class with a teacher who has the specialized training — and, possibly, a tutor.

Sometimes, when parents are extremely stressed or angry they can say things they don't mean without thinking of the lasting effect their words can have on a child. You are neither worthless nor stupid. You are an intelligent girl. Frankly, your father appears to be in need of some help, and I hope you will share with a counselor at your school what you have told me.

DEAR ABBY: My 13-year-old son is refusing to wear a bicycle helmet because he has decided it's "uncool." My husband and I have always worn them, but here in Texas many people don't. There's no state law requiring it.

I know how devastating the effects of a head injury can be and I want to prevent my son from getting one. How can I help my teenager see that protecting his brain is more important than looking "cool" to his friends who don't wear them? My son insists I am ... **AN OVERPROTECTIVE MOM**

DEAR OVERPROTECTIVE MOM: Contact your son's pediatrician and ask if he or she can facilitate a tour of a rehabilitation facility that treats people with traumatic brain injuries. If that doesn't convince your son, nothing will.

Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

WEDNESDAY DEC. 26

	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
(2) KDKA	News		CBS	Insider	Elementary ‘14’		The 35th Annual Kennedy Center Honors				News	Late Sh.
(3) WKYC	News	News	News	Ent	Whitney	Guys-	Law & Order: SVU		Chicago Fire ‘14’		News	Jay Leno
(4) WTAE	News	ABC	Inside	Ent	Middle	Neigh	Mod Fam	Suburg.	Nashville ‘PG’		News	Nightline
(5) WEWS	News	ABC	The List	Let's Ask	Middle	Neigh	Mod Fam	Suburg.	Nashville ‘PG’		News	Nightline
(8) WJW	Fox 8 News at 6PM		News	Big Bang	Ben-Kate	Ben-Kate	Ben-Kate	Ben-Kate	News		Big Bang	Seinfeld
(9) WTOV	News (N)	News	Jeopardy	Wheel	Whitney	Guys-	Law & Order: SVU		Chicago Fire ‘14’		News	Jay Leno
(11) WPXI	News	News	Jeopardy	Wheel	Whitney	Guys-	Law & Order: SVU		Chicago Fire ‘14’		News	Jay Leno
(17) WDLI	Mary and Joseph: A		Billy Graham		Behind	Turning	Prince	End	Left Behind Peter and Paul Lalonde.			
(19) WOIO	News	CBS	Wheel	Jeopardy	Elementary ‘14’		The 35th Annual Kennedy Center Honors				News	Late Sh.
(21) WFMJ	News	News	Inside	FamFeud	Whitney	Guys-	Law & Order: SVU		Chicago Fire ‘14’		News	Jay Leno
(22) WCWB	American	Fam. Guy	Simpsons	Seinfeld	NUMB3RS ‘PG’		NUMB3RS ‘PG’		Friends	Friends	Baggage	Excused
(23) WVPX	(5:30) Movie: “Executive Decision” (1996)				WWE Main Event		Movie: ★★ “Eraser” (1996) James Caan					Perfct
(27) WKBN	First	CBS	Wheel	Jeopardy	Elementary ‘14’		The 35th Annual Kennedy Center Honors				First	Late Sh.
(33) WYTV	News	ABC	Ent	Insider	Middle	Neigh	Mod Fam	Suburg.	Nashville ‘PG’		News	Nightline
(43) WUAB	Insider	Inside	Two Men	Two Men	NUMB3RS ‘PG’		NUMB3RS ‘PG’		News	Sports	Dish Nat.	Extra (N)
(49) WEAO	Sesame	E Street	PBS NewsHour (N)		Nature ‘PG’		NOVA ‘G’		NOVA ‘G’		Newsline	Business
(53) WPGH	Big Bang	Two Men	Big Bang	Two Men	Ben-Kate	Ben-Kate	Ben-Kate	Ben-Kate	Channel 11 News		Seinfeld	30 Rock
(55) WBNX	There	Rules	Office	Office	Arrow ‘14’ CC		Supernatural ‘14’		Friends	Friends	Rules	Raymond
(67) WOAC	Pastor	History	Dorinda	Fel.	TCT	Supernat.	B. Hinn	Life	J Hagee	Y'r Bible	Wom	Sayin
A&E	The First 48 ‘14’		Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck Dynasty ‘PG’		Shipping	Shipping	Shipping	Shipping
AMC	(5:30) Movie: ★★★ “Appaloosa” (2008)				Movie: ★★ “Four Brothers” (2005) Mark Wahlberg.					Movie: ★★★ “Casino”		
AP	Tanked: Unfiltered		Tanked: Unfiltered		Tanked ‘PG’ CC		Tanked ‘PG’ CC		Tanked ‘PG’ CC		Money	Money
BET	Queen (Part 2 of 3) ‘14’ CC					Queen (Part 3 of 3) ‘14’ CC					Wendy Williams	
BRAV	Million Dollar LA		Million Dollar LA		Housewives/Atl.		Top Chef: Seattle		Top Chef: Seattle		Top Chef: Seattle	
CNBC	Mad Money (N)		The Kudlow Report		Mexico's Drug War		Filthy Rich		American Greed		Mad Money	
CNN	The Situation Room		E. B. OutFront		Anderson Cooper		Piers Morgan		Anderson Cooper		E. B. OutFront	
CSPN	(5:00) Public Affairs				Capitol Hill Hearings							
DISC	Fast N' Loud ‘14’		Fast N' Loud ‘14’		Moonshiners ‘14’		Amish Mafia CC		Moonshiners ‘14’		Amish Mafia CC	
DISN	Phineas	Good	ANT	Jessie	Gravity	Movie: ★★★ “Spy Kids”			ANT	Phineas	Jessie	Shake It
E!	Celebrity Oops:		E! News (N)		LeAnn Rimes ‘14’		Ice-Coco	Ice-Coco	The Soup	Love You	Chelsea	E! News
ESPN	SportsCenter (N)		Football	College Football: Little Caesars Bowl							SportsCenter (N)	
ESPN2	E:60		NFL Live (N) CC		Sport Sci.	ProFILE	ProFILE	ProFILE	NFL's Greatest Games			Sport Sci.
FAM	(4:30) “Fred Claus”		Movie: ★★ “The Santa Clause 2” (2002)				Movie: ★★★ “Elf” (2003) Will Ferrell.				The 700 Club ‘PG’	
FNC	Special Report		FOX Report		The O'Reilly Factor		Hannity (N)		Greta Van Susteren		The O'Reilly Factor	
FOOD	Restaurant: Im.		Restaurant: Im.		Restaurant: Im.		Restaurant: Im.		Wedding: Impo.		Restaurant: Im.	
FSOH	UFC	Pregame	NBA Basketball: Cavaliers at Wizards					Post	Cavaliers	Football	World Poker Tour	
GAC	CMA Music Festival: Country's				Top 50 Videos		American Country Awards ‘14’ CC				Zac Brown Ba.	
HBO	Movie: ★ “New Year's Eve” (2011)				Game of Thrones		Game of Thrones		Game of Thrones		Boxing's Best	
HGTV	Love It or List It ‘G’		House Hunters		Property Brothers		Buying and Selling		Hunters	Hunt Intl	Property Brothers	
i	(5:30) Movie: “Executive Decision” (1996)				WWE Main Event		Movie: ★★ “Eraser” (1996) James Caan					Perfct
LIFE	Movie: ★★ “Must Love Dogs” (2005)				Movie: ★★★ “Pretty Woman” (1990) Richard Gere. CC						(:01) Biography ‘PG’	
MAX	“The Contender”		(6:50) ★ “This Means War”			Movie: ★★ “Project X” (2012)			Movie: ★★ “The Revenant” (2009)			
MSNBC	PoliticsNation (N)		Hardball Matthews		The Ed Show (N)		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word		The Ed Show	
MTV	“Not Teen Mv”		True Life		True Life		Jersey Shore ‘14’		Jersey Shore ‘14’		To Be Announced	
NICK	Sponge.	Sponge.	Marvin	Marvin	Full H'se	Full H'se	Full H'se	Full H'se	Nanny	Nanny	Friends	Friends
QVC	Tignanello		Clarks Footwear		Quacker Factory		PM Style With Lisa Robertson					
SHOW	Honor	Movie: ★★ “Fightville”			Untold History		Inside the NFL ‘PG’		Jim Rome, Sho		Inside the NFL ‘PG’	
SYFY	“Starship Troopers”		Ghost Hunters		Ghost Hunters		Ghost Hunters		Ghost Hunters		Ghost Hunters	
TBN	Mary and Joseph: A		Billy Graham		Behind	Turning	Prince	End	Left Behind Peter and Paul Lalonde.			
TCM	Movie: ★★ “Butterfield 8” (1960)				Movie: ★★ “Forty Guns”			Movie: “The Maverick Queen”			“The Violent Men”	
TLC	Toddlers & Tiaras		Toddlers & Tiaras		Best Funeral Ever		Toddlers & Tiaras		Cheer Perfection (N)		Toddlers & Tiaras	
TNN	Auction	Auction	Auction	Auction	Auction	Auction	Auction	Auction	Auction	Auction	Auction	Auction
TNT	Castle ‘PG’ CC		Castle ‘PG’ CC		Castle ‘PG’ CC		Castle ‘PG’ CC		Castle ‘PG’ CC		Leverage ‘PG’	
TOON	Regular	Gumball	Adven	NinjaGo	Dragons	Ben 10	King/Hill	King/Hill	American	American	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy
TRAV	Bizarre Foods		Bizarre Foods		Bggg	Bggg	Bggg	Bggg	Fast Food-Glbl		Drive Thru Paradise	
TRUTV	Cops	Cops	World's Dumbest...		Full Throttle Saloon		Full Throttle Saloon		Black Gold (N) ‘14’		Repo	Repo
TVLAND	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Cosby	Cosby	Cosby	Raymond	Raymond	Cleve	Divorced	King	King
USA	NCIS ‘PG’ CC		NCIS ‘14’ CC		NCIS ‘14’ CC		NCIS “Family” ‘14’		NCIS ‘14’ CC		NCIS “Chimera” ‘14’	
WGN	Chris	Chris	Funny Home Videos		Rules	Rules	Rules	Rules	WGN News at Nine		Funny Home Videos	
WTBS	King	King	Seinfeld	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	Big Bang	Conan CC	

Is fatigue part of Raynaud's disease?

Dr. Donohue

DEAR DRS. DONOHUE AND ROACH: My 19-year-old was diagnosed with Raynaud's disease. Because of her age, they have not prescribed anything for this. At present, she gets cold hands and feet that turn colors, and she finds it too cold to go swimming. She also is always tired.

Can you tell me a bit more about this, and why she would get so tired? Would you prescribe something for this at her age? — **D.C.**

ANSWER: Raynaud's phenomenon is a common condition where blood vessels have an exaggerated response to cold and sometimes to stress. The hands or toes turn color (white and/or blue) with cold, and then red upon rewarming. Raynaud's phenomenon can happen by itself, with no associated condition. When this happens, we call it primary Raynaud's phenomenon, or it may be associated with other conditions such as autoimmune diseases like scleroderma, lupus or Sjogrens.

The diagnosis sounds correct, but you've raised two concerns. The first is whether she should have medication for her condition, and the second is should the tiredness cause you or her concern.

eciding to treat with medications depends on how well non-medication treatment is working. Avoiding cold, dressing warmly and using mittens or electric hand warmers are critical. But if she is still having frequent episodes despite these measures, I would indeed consider prescribing a medicine, like nifedipine (Procardia or Adalat).

The second concern is her fatigue, and although this is very nonspecific in a 19-year-old, I would make sure she has been carefully evaluated for other causes, such as lupus and related disease, thyroid disease and abnormal cold-sensitive proteins such as cryoglobulins. It may be advisable for her to consult with an expert, such as a rheumatologist.

DEAR DRS. DONOHUE AND ROACH: I had my first-ever summer cold, which caused viral meningitis. For seven days I was in excruciating pain in the neck, shoulders and upper back. I was hospitalized for three days. I was treated with antibiotics and many pain-relief medications, including oxycodone and morphine. Kindly explain why viral meningitis causes such excruciating pain, like no other! — **G.B.**

ANSWER: Meningitis is an infection of the meninges, the lining of the spinal cord and brain. It can be caused by either viruses or bacteria. Bacterial meningitis is one of the most important emergencies that we see in medicine, one in which even a half-hour's delay in antibiotics can mean the difference between life and death.

Viral meningitis initially can look very similar to bacterial, and often is treated with antibiotics until the results of the spinal tap are known. The difference usually can be told then. Antibiotics are lifesaving in bacterial meningitis, but most cases of viral meningitis get better without specific treatment. Fever, back pain and/or "the worst headache of your life" are suspicious for meningitis and ought to be brought to medical attention immediately.

The brain has no pain sensation itself; however, the meninges that line it have abundant pain fibers. In most people, these pain fibers never send a message, but in the case of meningeal inflammation, the pain message is intense and unmistakable. Perhaps this is why the pain is so memorable.

DEAR DRS. DONOHUE AND ROACH: I take Plavix. I went to a new dentist for my gum treatment and bled heavily. I came home sick from so much bleeding. I called my doctor, and he said that the next time I should not take Plavix the day before I go. Is one day sufficient? — **E.L.**

ANSWER: Plavix lasts about eight hours in the body, so 90 percent of it is gone within 24 hours. One day should be enough. Careful brushing and especially flossing can make your visits to the dentist less traumatic.

Now thinks she like to marry 'Stan'

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: I have been dating "Stan" for five years. We are both in our 60s. When we started dating, I was absolutely certain that I did not want to get married. But Stan and I have been through so much these past few years with various illnesses and the like. We have always stood by each other, and I have come to realize that I would like to be married to this man and have said so to him.

Stan still has responsibilities to a surviving parent. Both Stan and his mom seem so dependent on each other that I feel like the proverbial third wheel. When I discuss this with Stan, there is a slight change, but only for a brief period of time, and then things go right back to the way they were, with me essentially on my own.

I don't want to walk away from Stan, but I need more than I am getting and want to know how to get my point across. I would hate for Stan to lose out on having a wonderful life with me at this stage of our lives. — **So Confused**

Dear Confused: You cannot force Stan to see the benefits of marriage through your eyes. His relationship with his surviving parent takes precedence over his relationship with you, and right now, Stan interprets marriage as an abandonment of Mom.

In addition, you have changed the rules midstream by wanting marriage when you initially precluded it. You would do better to absorb Mom into your life, making a commitment toward her care part of your relationship. And although that doesn't promise marriage, it will make Stan more favorably disposed. Only you can decide whether the relationship with Stan the Man is worth keeping without the legal papers.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Ste. 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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